





## Boycott of three-way talks urged by unions

**From Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor Perth**

□ Mr Walter Brown, Labour's assistant national agent, said yesterday that the party was contesting more seats than any other party in the country (the Press Association reports).

In England, Labour was putting up 4,581 candidates for 4,789 seats.

Mr Shorten believes the Alliance poses little threat to conservative support. "Unless I misjudge the climate the Alliance will have no effect at all, because they have no experience in local government."

Mr David Simmonds, for the joint committee of municipal unions coordinating the action, said that if the council employed private firms temporarily to empty bins and answer telephones, more staff might be asked to strike.

23 St. James's Street Derby

Mr. Ground's committee has the initial subsidy required to enable the proposed trust to run the property as a public place, including meetings and catering facilities to offer at commercial rates. The plan includes acquiring from the Church Commissioners the freehold reversion of the palace and then accepting surrender of the council's lease held from the council.

Mr. Ground would not disclose the likely cost of purchase, but said that the commissioners' income from the lease was small.

Government policy was putting severe financial pressure on trade unions. Mr. Clarence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday. He told the union's national committee in Eastbourne that the Government was embarked on a policy of sapping the financial numerical strength of the trade union movement. "Unfortunately they are succeeding," he added.

The AUEW, which had somewhat been criticised as a "non-militant union," had in the last three years paid out more than £5.5m in dispute benefit.

It has in common with other unions, had its membership reduced as a result of unemployment.

Mr. Duffy also gave a

## Ford standstill

It said that economic problems undoubtedly played a part in the 1981 urban disorders. "They were at least in part an expression of a deep-rooted inner city problem which has not been solved in spite of the efforts of government and local authorities in the 1970s."

The West Midlands, once the workshop of the world, was facing its worst economic crisis. About 225,000 people, 16 per cent of the county's workforce, were

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It occurs in patients who have such sensitive nose linings that a very mild irritant will start the sneezing.

And the calculated distance of the Sun puts Mercury's orbit out of reach of Einstein. Professor Hill now believes that there is a "finite chance" that Einstein is wrong although he puts more weight on the possibility that the error lies in the measurements of Mercury's orbit, or that of the other planets which affect Mercury.

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## Prior's assembly laws to be unveiled this week

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Legislation setting up Mr James Prior's elected assembly for Northern Ireland will be unveiled later this week amid indications of a distinct cooling in Anglo-Irish relations.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland will publish a short Bill which will amend certain sections of the 1973 Constitution Act despite official unionist demands that the Commons debate the White Paper outlining his development plans first.

Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionists, said his party would try to change the plan by tabling amendments when the Bill comes before the Commons.

He also indicated that leading MPs in the party, including himself and Mr Enoch Powell, MP for South Down, would consider contesting assembly elections if invited to stand by their local constituency associations.

Polling for the 78-seat assembly will be by proportional representation and is expected to take place in the first two weeks of October.

Politicians in Ulster wait to see whether the mainly Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party is going to contest the elections or go to the polls but boycott the assembly.

Mr Prior has made it clear that whatever their eventual decision he will go ahead with his plan.

"Naturally, I hope they are attracted to take part and I hope they have now had a chance to examine the White Paper," Mr Haughey's return to office was greeted with equanimity by the British who had worked well with him in the past and achieved a breakthrough in relations between the two countries in 1980.

As a result of the different emphasis put on the Anglo-Irish process by the different governments, Dublin tends to view it as a precursor to unity or a definite move in that direction while the British accept that nothing substantial is about to change and that it

will deal mainly with matters outside serious contention.

However, it is clear that Mr Haughey is determined that the momentum by which he set great store when he was last prime minister will gather pace and he would like the parliamentary tier of the Anglo-Irish council to be set up sooner rather than later with clear functions on certain matters.

Two Irish Naval vessels and four aircraft scoured the Irish Sea today for signs of a submarine believed to have sunk a 70-foot fishing boat (the Press Association reports).

The five man crew of the £200,000 trawler *Sharelga* from Clogherhead, Lough, were picked up unhurt by sister ships after the *Sharelga* was hauled backwards at high speed for more than two miles before she capsized and sank.

The Ministry of Defence is investigating the incident, says a spokesman. A spokesman said that they had had no reports which would indicate that a Royal Navy boat was involved.

If indeed a submarine were involved, a British or an American boat would be the most likely culprit because of the relative proximity of their bases off the Clyde, in the Gareloch and Holy Loch.

Soviet submarines are also present from time to time, according to the British and American bases, and the RAF and Royal Navy were tracking one in the Clyde approaches several weeks ago. That boat has now left the area.

Four men, arrested in the Irish Republic at the weekend after a terrorist murder near Ulster's border, appeared in a Dublin court yesterday. All four were charged at the city's anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court, with possessing and having control of explosives and will appear again on May 10.

anger in the republic whose government has branded his scheme as unworkable. It is being argued that his insistence on going ahead contradicts the White Paper, which says that no system of government is to be imposed on either side of the community will work effectively.

In Dublin, Mr Prior is being viewed as a man in a hurry whose initiative is being undermined by his own political ambitions. There is further annoyance that there was little real consultation on the plan.

It was expected that the Anglo-Irish process, initiated by Mr Prior's initiative in 1980, would have meant more detailed discussions and there is disappointment at what is seen as the "flattering" and "fairly empty" nature of the process at the moment. The 11 paragraphs in his White Paper concerning the two identities within Northern Ireland, are being dismissed as little more than worthy verbal statements.

Although personal relations between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Haughey, the new Taoiseach, are said to be cordial, Mr Prior's determination to go on with the British Government's plan is understood to have put something of a cloud over relations between the two countries. Plans are going ahead for the next summit between the two prime ministers which the Irish Government would like to be held in July.

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## Crypt may be medical centre

The dead are to be removed from a London crypt to make room for medical treatment of the living. Permission has been given for the transfer of 500 bodies from the crypt of St Marylebone parish church to a cemetery outside London. The last burial in the crypt was in the 1850s.

The Rev Christopher Hamel Cooke, the rector, said yesterday before launching a £1m restoration appeal that he hoped to use part of the crypt for a doctor's flat and surgery. The parish includes Harley Street.

The rector said that he wanted to start a unique partnership between medicine and the church in which patients would be able to receive physical treatment and spiritual comfort in the same building. "It is not our claim to be able to succeed where scientific medicine fails. The church ministers to the sick in partnership with the medical profession," he said.

Mr Hamel Cooke said that he knew of a doctor who was a lay reader and was eager to open the crypt surgery. "He will not ram religion down their throats," the rector said. The restoration plan for the early nineteenth century church includes purchase of a new organ for £100,000.

The church has a famous choir and is often used by the neighbouring Royal Academy of Music. The present decrepit organ was damaged by flooding 17 years ago and was originally built from two large organs.

Architects have advised the rector that some pieces of carved masonry have been so eroded that they constitute an increasing hazard to passers-by from falling fragments. Scaffolding was erected by the church yesterday for cleaning and replacement of the stone facings.

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## Inflation 'punishes' 4m low-paid

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

More than four million full-time adult workers are having their standard of living further reduced because they are low paid, according to a report published today.

Because they spend more on essentials, including housing, fuel and transport, the low-paid experience higher inflation rates than other income groups.

By the end of last year, the living costs of the lowest-paid households had risen by 14 per cent, compared to the 12 per cent inflation rate recorded by the retail price index (RPI).

The gap between the poorest households and the rest is likely to get bigger, the report says, because rent and rates, fuel prices and fares are all increasing while falling interest rates will reduce the cost of living for the higher paid.

The report is published jointly by the Civil and Public Services Association and Low Pay Unit, which also produces a monthly low-pay price index to measure the impact of inflation on the lowest income groups.

Mr Chris Pond, director of the Low Pay Unit, said yesterday that 4,185,000 full-time adult workers were earning less than £85 a week. The gap was widening, he said, because the government needed to give a family of two adults and two children the same income as their national entitlement on supplementary benefits, and it represents the official poverty line. The total included 175,000 non-industrial civil servants.

Unemployment among the young is rising faster than among adults in spite of falling wage rates over the past five years. That is shown in a new analysis published today by the Unemployment Unit.

The unit says the figures, drawn from official sources, disprove the belief that young people are pricing themselves out of jobs.

Between 1976 and 1981, hourly rates for males aged 21 fell from 55.8 per cent of adult rates to 54.7 per cent. Over the same period, the unemployment rate for young males increased by almost 60 per cent. Young women experienced an even higher increase in the unemployment rate over the same period, although their hourly rates fell from 55.7 per cent of the adult rate to 55.4 per cent.

The unit says the figures reinforce research findings of a Department of Employment of the gap between the earnings of young and adult workers during the 30 years from 1948 to 1978. That study said that variations in youth unemployment "do not appear to have any systematic relationship with changes in the relative earnings of young people".

## Authority fights £15m sewer plan

The North West Water Authority may have to spend £15m to stop river pollution if local residents win a court battle (Our Manchester Correspondent writes).

Five householders brought summonses against the authority under the Public Health Act alleging that a stream which runs through south Manchester caused a statutory nuisance.

Mr Stephen Savain, for the residents, told Manchester city magistrates yesterday that a pumping station on the stream, which runs from Gorton to Chorlton, could not cope with the flow of sewage, so that the stream was filled with untreated sewage and in hot weather gave off an offensive smell.

The authority admitted the offences and faces a possible fine. It has started renovating the pumping station and is fighting a proposal by the residents who want it to build a new sewer which could cut the problem at a cost of £15m. The proposal could be included in a nuisance abatement order against the authority. The case continues.

## Oxfam worker took coins

An Oxfam worker stole £60 worth of foreign coins which had been sent to a Blue Peter appeal to provide freshwater pipelines in India, a court heard yesterday.

Garry French, aged 19, of Orchard Way, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, admitted stealing the coins, which he was sorting at Oxfam's Bicester warehouse. He was fined £25 and ordered to pay £16.25 compensation.

Three colleagues who admitted receiving the coins were each fined £20 by Bicester magistrates.

## Bail offence fine for Sophie Cordle

Miss Sophie Cordle, daughter of Mr John Cordle, the former Conservative MP for Bournemouth East, was fined £10 yesterday for failing to answer bail on a prostitution charge.

Miss Cordle, a secretary, aged 24, was arrested on a non-appearance warrant on Sunday. She spent the night in a police cell before appearing at Marlborough Street Court. She is charged with soliciting in Park Lane, Mayfair, on March 8.

## Children die in house fire

Cary Grainger, aged five, and his sister Kathy, aged two, died after fire swept through their house in Cumbrin Gardens, Newton Aycliffe, co Durham, yesterday.

Mr David Grainger, their father, jumped from the blazing house just before firemen rescued his son Paul, aged 10 months.

## Protestants and editor clash on anti-Pope rally

By Michael Horsnell

Leaders of the Protestant Reformation Society, which is organizing a rally in Trafalgar Square on May 29 against the Pope's visit, clashed yesterday with the editor of the *Church Times*, the leading Anglican newspaper, because he refused to publish a four-page inset advertising the rally.

The inset includes a cartoon attacking the Pope's visit and offers what its authors describe as an alternative view to the "unqualified welcome" the newspaper is giving to the papal visit.

About 15,000 copies have been distributed with the *Church of England Newspaper* and the *English Churchman*, both of which circulate among Anglican Evangelicals, and another 50,000 have been published by the society for private distribution and insertion in the *Church Times*.

Dr Derek Scates, the society's assistant general secretary and co-author of the inset, said: "This is a question of the paper's Anglo-Catholic ancestry showing through. The *Church Times* has already carried a British Council of Churches advertising feature welcoming the papal visit. I am very disappointed that a Church of England organization cannot now carry an alternative view."

## Joint campaign to fight school vandals

From a Staff Reporter, Cardiff

Police and education authorities in south Wales launched a campaign yesterday to curb vandalism and destruction in schools which costs ratepayers hundreds of thousands of pounds a year. In extreme cases, whole classrooms have been destroyed by arson, and in other instances schools have been closed so that damage can be repaired.

The authorities hope that through the scheme called "operation schoolwatch", young people will be encouraged to keep watch over their schools during term and holiday time.

In mid Glamorgan the annual cost of vandalism is almost £500,000 and in south Glamorgan the repair bill this year will be about £65,000. South Glamorgan has already spent an additional £20,000 this year on security measures in schools.

In Gwent, where school vandalism has cost more than £250,000 in a five year period, children are offered rewards if their information leads to a successful prosecution.

Mr E Curry-Jones, chairman of south Glamorgan's education committee, said the campaign was "not a snooping exercise". He added: "Money spent repairing vandalism means less available for school books and equipment."

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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

## Adventure recruits report in

The first group of young people to join the Government's military-style adventure training scheme reported for duty yesterday. About a dozen youths assembled at RAF Cosford, near Wolverhampton, to be fitted out for a fortnight's course in physical education. They begin their course in earnest today.

The initial number here is small because we are just getting the course organized. It is likely to increase to about 40 in the next few weeks, an RAF spokesman said.

## Atlantic fares 'to stay level'

There will be no further rises in Atlantic air fares this year, Mr Edward Acker, chairman of Pan American World Airways, predicted in London yesterday. Fares could be expected to take their usual seasonal drop in October, but not by the 50 to 60 per cent by which tourist fares to the United States were cut last November, precipitating the collapse of Laker Airways. (Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent, writes).

## Six face £26m fraud trial

Six men charged in connection with an alleged plot to defraud the Iranian Government in a £26m bogus arms deal, were yesterday sent for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

They included Benham Nodjoumi, aged 37, an Iranian company director and a former member of the late Shah's secret police, who was committed in custody from Marylebone Magistrates' Court. His five co-defendants were granted bail, totalling £32,000.

## Heart man dies

Mr Clive Wagstaff, a miner, aged 45, of Waterloo Street, Bramley Vale, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, has died at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge, nine days after undergoing a heart transplant operation.

## Civil servants' 13% pay claim brushed aside

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The Government brushed aside the Civil Service unions' 13 per cent pay claim in the yesterday in the most uncompromising defence it has yet made of the use of market forces to determine public sector pay.

The Treasury told the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal that the claim, which also seeks a minimum increase of £12.50 a week, would add nearly 15 per cent to the pay bill and cost more than £600m.

Its submission to the tribunal, chaired by Mr David Calcutt, QC, suggests that given the Civil Service's current ability to recruit and retain staff "it could have been argued that no increase in pay was needed at all in the circumstances of 1982."

The Treasury, whose £170m offer ranges from nil to 5.5 per cent, said it acknowledges that there is a need to motivate staff and to deal with problems of keeping trained staff which, "while diminished", still exist.

The government team said, however, in its submission that evidence on retraining and recruitment of staff — which in some cases has doubled during 1981 — points to a need for "only a very modest increase."

The Treasury submission rejects the union's demand for special help for the low paid and adds bluntly: "The Government does not consider that the pay of civil servants, or any other group should be determined by the needs of the individual. Pay is a matter for the market place and social needs are the province of the social security system."

Both sides believe that the tribunal, whose opening hearing in London yesterday was held by about 200 militant civil servants, could report as soon as Friday.

Recourse to arbitration was provided for in the settlement which ended the 21-week strike of civil servants last year, though the Government made it clear that Parliament could be asked to override the tribunal's findings.

Mr William Kendall, general secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, told Mr Calcutt yesterday that a decision in favour of the Government's market forces offer might "undermine" the union's position towards the present inquiry under Sir John Megaw into a future method of regulating service pay, and "prejudice their outcome."

The Treasury submission, drawn up by a team led by Mr Peter Le Cheminant, Under Secretary, says that if the tribunal follows the pattern of the past with a rate approach taking no

account of the difficulties of recruiting and retaining staff "there would be a growing mismatch between the pattern of pay rates and current management needs."

The tribunal is reminded in the Treasury evidence of the pay offers made to other public service groups, including those to the nurses and teachers and is told: "The pay settlement for the Civil Service could therefore have an economic importance extending well beyond its direct cost."

The Treasury said that the "realism" of its offer, which ranges from nothing for 65,000 civil servants to 5.5 per cent for 240,000 or nearly half the service, is "wholly compatible with the high regard in which the Government holds the performance of the civil service."

Mr Kendall told the tribunal yesterday that it had become the "custodian of industrial relations in the Civil Service". The union evidence said the 530,000 white collar civil servants were looking to the tribunal to prevent the unfair and discriminatory treatment implied by the offer.

The evidence points to the statement at a meeting with the union last April by Lord Sainsbury, then Lord President of the Council, that comparisons with outside pay "would naturally have a role to play" and that it was not the Government's intention to allow civil servants' pay to fall behind.

The unions claim that the present offer is a "denial" of comparability and accuses ministers of "deliberate failure to honour government assurances" given in 1981 which, it says, formed much of the basis for ending the strike. The offer reflected "a crude attempt to divide and rule" by differentiating between groups.

The union evidence says that the offer would mean that civil servants would have seen their living standards decline between ten and 16 per cent over a two year period since April 1980.

The decision to award nothing to most staff under 21 on pay scales related to age is to reflect an "arbitrary view that young people are overpaid".

The Treasury, by contrast, says that the Government has heeded market forces and management factors including increased rewards for skill, experience, and responsibility, all of which factors are necessary for a "more efficient Civil Service". The Government also has a wider duty "not to spend more money than is necessary" as a vital contribution to the economic health and prosperity of the nation.



## Former dancer is North's first black headmaster

Mr Carlton Duncan, who yesterday became the first black headmaster in the north of England, with some of his pupils at Wyke Manor Upper School in Bradford (Our Leeds correspondent writes).

Mr Duncan, who is 41 and Jamaican-born, came to Bradford from Coventry and had recently served on Lord Swan's committee of inquiry into the education of ethnic minorities. Ten per cent of

the pupils aged between 13 and 18 at Wyke Manor Upper School are black.

Mr Duncan was a professional dancer for 10 years before joining the teaching profession in 1972.

As he looked around the 1,000-pupil comprehensive school yesterday, many children and staff asked him about the health of his wife, Saurinder, aged 24, who is expect-

ing test-tube twins in September. She became pregnant after receiving treatment at the Cambridge clinic of Mr Patrick Sargison.

Mr Duncan said of his appointment yesterday: "I see this job as a challenge. At the moment, I am finding my way round and meeting everyone. I have some new ideas for the school which I shall consider when I have settled down."

## Noise health warnings sought

By David Nicholson-Lord

Insurance companies' display advertisements may soon carry health warnings on the effects of noise, if a protest group's campaign succeeds.

The chairman of all Britain's leading insurers are being asked to include the warning, free of charge, on advertising and company literature.

The text, supplied by the Noise Abatement Society, says noise "can seriously damage your health" and adds: "Don't make unnecessary noise yourself. Don't accept it from others. There are laws against noise. Use them."

The society's appeal coincides with today's opening of the biennial congress of the International Association against noise in Vienna. There are expected to be strong protests there about the alleged failure of governments to legislate adequately on noise and about what are seen as unrealistic standards.

Particularly those for road vehicles, when they do. The criticisms extend to Britain, despite laws enacted by many foreign campaigners. But Mr John Connell, chairman of the Noise Abatement Society, argues that urban conditions make nonsense of the 89 decibel standard for an ordinary lorry, based on a measuring point 7.5 metres away in open terrain.

The "conveying effect" of a lorry going down a narrow London street where the farthest a pedestrian can retreat is a quarter or half the distance means the noise pressure can be increased by a factor of 10", he said yesterday.

The Society says it has approached insurance companies because they would benefit most immediately from reduced claims for stress and damage, but the society also hopes to see its warning on advertisements for consumer goods, food and drink.

Questions are to be asked in Parliament about road works which are so noisy that Derby environmental

health department has issued one resident with earplugs and headphones (Our Derby Correspondent writes).

The road in question is the last section of the Leeds to Exeter trunk route. Mrs Elsie Lazarri, of Maxwell Avenue, Derby, was issued with earplugs after a prolonged soundproof wall separating her garden from the road works was not built.

Mrs Lazarri said yesterday: "The noise is so bad that even when I wear the earplugs I can still hear it. The noise just drums back into my head. It is like being in the middle of a battle field."

Mr Philip Whitehead, Labour MP for Derby North, plans to seek and adjournment debate to discuss the conduct of road building.

He said: "I thought the conditions are absolutely intolerable for people. The contractors appear to be working all hours and double glazing and other protection was not completed before the worst of the work started."

## Surprise choice as principal

By Diana Giddes Education Correspondent

Dr William Taylor, director of the London University Institute of Education for the past nine years, is the university's unexpected choice for the much sought-after post of principal, the chief administrative and financial officer of London University.

His appointment, in succession to Mr Hamish Stewart who retired in July 1981 after five years in the post, is expected to be announced before the next meeting of the university senate at the end of this month.

As principal, Dr Taylor, who is 51 and who until now has spent his whole career in teaching, will be responsible for an annual budget of £200m.

The post, which is considered crucial to the university's future, attracted some unexpected and distinguished candidates including Mr Geoffrey Caine, former registrar of Oxford University and now Secretary of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals. Mr Dudley Fiske, chief education officer of Manchester, and Mr Geoffrey Lockwood, registrar of Sussex University.

Dr Taylor, 51, is a former teacher and has been at the Institute of Education since 1972. He was previously at the University of London, where he was a senior lecturer in education.

Dr Taylor's appointment is seen as a surprise because he is not a senior administrator and has no experience of large-scale financial management.

Dr William Taylor, budget of £200m a year

## Yorkshire seeks US help on the buses

From Ronald Kershaw Wakefield

American consultants are to study West Yorkshire's public transport system and suggest a cost-cutting programme which will not affect services.

Mr John Gunnell, the county council leader, said the study would have national implications, bearing in mind the House of Lords judgement which led to the doubling of fares in London. Government plans to cut spending on bus subsidies and the problems of public transport elsewhere in Britain.

The first phase of the study will cost £122,000, less than a quarter of 1 per cent of this year's subsidy.

The company Booz, Allen and Hamilton, already has a team of nine in South Yorkshire and will produce the first reports in July. A decision on whether to extend the study will be taken after that.

The company has recently completed similar studies in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York. Mr Gunnell said the United States had more experience than Britain of serious transport decline and by drawing on it West Yorkshire could be five years ahead of the rest of the country in its approach to public transport problems.

He said: "I do not expect magic or instant solutions. There is no Midas touch in public transport, but this major study, coupled with public consultation, will make us the most forward-looking passenger transport authority in the country."

Mr Gunnell said the Government's expectation that fares should provide a high proportion of running costs has led to a cycle of decline in which fare increases were followed by passenger losses and reductions in service.

In West Yorkshire the system has reached a crisis. In both 1975 and 1980 there were three fare increases. There had been fewer passengers and fewer services.

He said the Labour administration had taken a "hard line" which it took over last year. Since then it had taken a series of measures to support the buses, including denying a supplementary rate and the number of passengers was now increasing.

Mr Gunnell said: "Public transport in West Yorkshire would continue to cost the ratepayers a great deal of money. It was in everybody's interest that all possible savings were considered."

Anti-oil slick squadron set up for £780,000

Government plans to fight a chemical war against oil pollution: anti-oil slick British coast were announced yesterday.

The Department of Trade's Marine Pollution Control Unit, which is responsible for dealing with oil slicks, is setting up a squadron of eight aircraft based in Scotland and England on permanent standby. They can be airborne at 30 minutes' notice by day and in two hours at night.

Rear Admiral Michael Stacey, the unit's director, said yesterday that the bases were at Southend, Exeter, West Freugh near Stranraer and Kildonan. The aircraft to be used are six British Normant Islanders and DC-8s which have been adapted for low level spraying of chemicals.

The Southend-based crop spraying firm of Harvest Air Limited has been awarded the contract. The annual cost of the service will be £780,000.

## New 24th Issue National Savings Certificates

**£153 for £100 in five years**

The 24th Issue National Savings Certificate is now on sale. It guarantees to pay £153 in five years for every £100 invested. That's equivalent to a compound annual interest rate of 8.92% over the full term.

How many other savings schemes can guarantee this for five years ahead? (Whatever happens to other interest rates in that period.) But that's not all!

**Tax free benefits**

The return is free of all UK income tax (including investment income surcharge) and capital gains tax.

This means that anyone paying income tax at the basic rate of 30% would need a gross annual interest of 12.74% guaranteed for five years to enjoy the same benefit. But with National Savings Certificates you don't even have to declare them on your tax form!

**Where to buy**

Buy Certificates from most post offices and banks. They're sold in units of £25 and the maximum holding is £2,500 (that's in addition to any other National Savings Certificates you have).

If you need to cash in the new Certificate before the full 5 years this usually takes about a week.

The interim rates — once you have held the Certificate for 12 months — are still good. Get full details from the leaflet at post offices or banks.

**24th Issue**

National Savings Certificates

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**24th Issue**

National Savings Certificates

## Slump in zoo visitors as society loses £1m

The number of visitors to Regent's Park Zoo, in London, dropped by 21 per cent as the London Zoological Society lost more than £1m last year, it is revealed today.

The drop in the number of visitors is described in the society's annual report as a serious and entirely unforeseen rate of decline.

The society's other zoo, Whipsnade, also suffered despite its lavish fiftieth anniversary celebrations. Visitors there were 2 per cent down in 1981. The decline is blamed on the recession and poor weather.

The society reported an operating loss of £1,152,000 last year, but Lord Zuckerman, the president, said a day at the zoo was still a favorite family outing. He pointed to recent surveys showing the two zoos

are still popular. A poll of 263 south-east households showed that in 25 per cent of the homes at least one person had visited a zoo in the last three years.

In another survey of 1,000 homes around Britain the figure was one in seven. This indicated that parents still considered taking their children to the zoo an essential part of their education, he said.

Lord Zuckerman admitted that higher entrance charges could have priced zoos out of the market, but confirmed that the Government had agreed to a big grant to help the society through its difficulties.

He dismissed claims that wildlife programmes on television had killed the public's appetite for seeing animals in zoos.

## Architecture

## Terminal orthodoxy at the Barbican

By Charles McKean, Architecture Correspondent

The great and glorious Barbican, the Centre for the Arts, has never before been given the chance to design an airport terminal, but among their buildings are some of the finest designs of the '50s and '60s. Yet it surely would be easier to find your way to your flight in an airport than it is to your destination in the Barbican Arts Centre.

The foyer area consists of a concentration of great staircases, in relatively short flights of deep carpet, differentiated one from the other solely by the design of whatever housing to modern sculpture they have designed to suspend from the ceiling above.

It is perfectly reasonable to suppose that if you mount all those steps you will arrive at some vista, as in the National Theatre, from which you would obtain a tremendous view of the city, and a sense of exciting volume. Irrespective of whether you like the bare concrete and coffered ceilings of the National, it were foolish to deny the excitement of how the main entrance, foyers, and the staircases can provide variety, interest and incident. No such excitement

can be gained at the Barbican. Instead, the Barbican spaces all seemed cramped as though squashed by the mighty weight of the bus-hammered concrete above. Indeed, everything about the building is heavy, heavy in detail, heavy in furnishing, and design, heavy in inspiration.

From the deep red painted ceilings above the lower bar to the ground curving exhibition gallery behind the concert hall, inspiration gives way to Tectonic worthiness.

It is not a matter, as Mr. Rodney Gradidge seems to imply, of preferring plaster cherubs and gilt swags to the austerity of bush-hammered concrete. It is something more fundamental than that. Modern architecture, as credit as avoiding a great as any previous era, more so when it takes proper advantage of new structural techniques and materials. But even in that one concession to lightness — the so-called "conspicuous" — the design is still orthodox.

It may seem from the above that the new centre is a worthless design. Nothing could be further from the

truth. It is well worth a visit — even apart from the bonus of coming to a play, or a drink. And the auditoria do have a satisfying feeling of opulent grandeur. Any sadness derived from this new centre, comes mainly from a knowledge of missed opportunities.

As is so often the case, the design was never quite sure exactly what they were creating, and have therefore produced a hybrid, a building that is not quite at work, but an assemblage of bits of other buildings that have stimulated the designer.

To be a few comparative: the Barbican Arts Centre has none of the transitory glow and glory of that artistic aircraft hangar in Norfolk, the Sainsbury Centre; none of the wealthy austerity and single-mindedness of the Milton Keynes Shopping Centre; and none of the arrogance of the National Theatre.

However, a few months is infinitesimal in the life span of this building. It may well be that future generations will regard the Barbican Arts Centre as one of the finer buildings of the mid-1960s.



# Yorkshire seeks US help on the buses

From Ronald Kershaw Wakefield

American consultants are to study West Yorkshire's public transport system and suggest a cost-cutting programme which will not affect services.

Mr John Cunneen, the county council leader, said the study would have national implications, being a judgment which led to the doubling of fares in London. Government plans to cut spending on bus subsidies and the problems of public transport elsewhere in Britain.

The first phase of the study will cost £122,000, less than a quarter of 1 per cent of this year's subsidy.

The company Booz, Allen and Hamilton, already has a team of nine experts in Leeds. The first reports will be made in the first week of July. A decision on whether to extend the study will be taken after that.

The company has recently completed similar studies in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York. Mr Cunneen said the United States had more experience than Britain in urban transport decisions.

By drawing on a first-hand knowledge of the country in its approach to public transport problems, he said: "We do not expect magic or instant solutions. There is no Midas touch in public transport, but a major study, coupled with public consultation, will make us the most forward-looking passenger transport authority in the country."

Mr Cunneen said the Government's expectation that fares should provide a high proportion of running costs had led to a cycle of decline in which fare increases were followed by passenger losses and reductions in service.

In West Yorkshire the system had lurches from one crisis to another. In both 1975 and 1976 there were fare increases. There had been fewer passengers in 1976 than in 1975.

He said the Labour administration had inherited a huge deficit when it took over the system. When it had taken over, it had taken a number of measures to improve the buses, including a 10 per cent increase in the supplementary rate and the number of passenger seats.

When the decisions were made, the transport authority would be able to pay the ratepayers back the money. It was a very real interest in the savings was made.

## Anti-oil slick squadron set up for £780,000

The Home Office has announced the formation of a new anti-oil slick squadron, which will be based in the south-east of England.

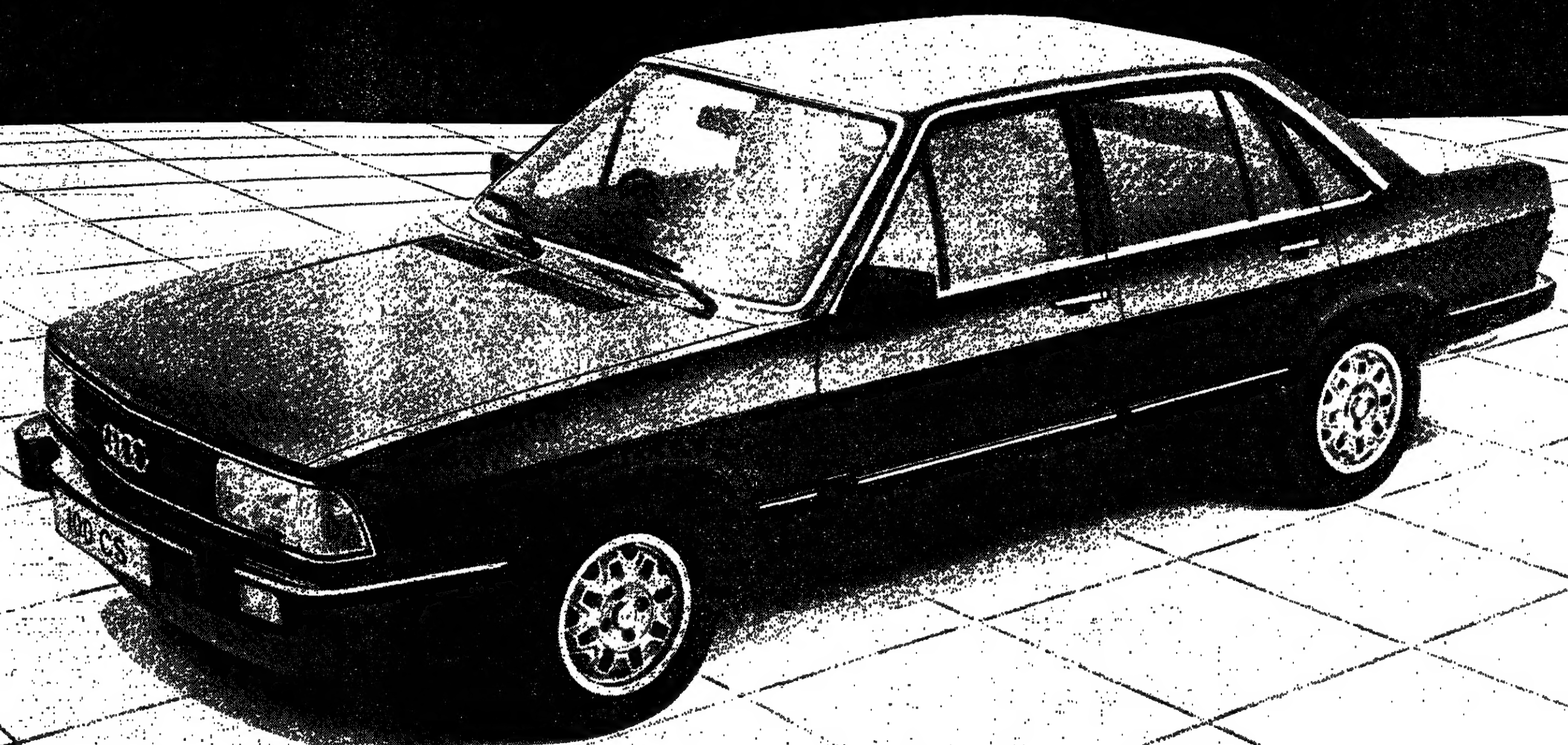
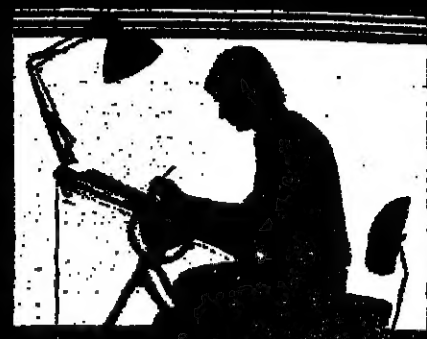
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front spoiler, alloy sports wheels, a protective waistline strip, headlamp washers and integral foglights. Inside, you'll find check tweed upholstery, open front head restraints, a sports steering wheel, power steering, five seat belts and remote control for the door mirrors. The 23 cu ft boot is adaptable for through-loading into the cabin for long objects like skis or golf clubs. The 100 CS has a five-speed gearbox with

the high fifth gear marked E, for economy. Which accounts for the dramatic fuel consumption figures in high speed cruising. Automatic transmission is optional. And like all Audis, the 100 CS has front-wheel drive. All of which adds a great deal to the 100. And at £8,549, the deal looks even better.

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## Brandt oratory fails to rouse half empty hall

From Patricia Clough, Munich, April 19

Willy Brandt, the Social Democratic chairman, tried to rally his divided and unpopular party with the appeal "let us start again".

He opened the party's two-yearly national congress with a call for a new sense of direction for a new chapter of social reforms and for social discipline.

He told his pacifists that there was "no other way" to disarmament than the Nato stationing of nuclear missiles in Europe. But he also had to face in all his famous conciliatory talents to try to bring members together again.

"I ask you all," he cried, "for a great new effort. Let us dare to go forward."

The Congress, he said, must be "a congress of Social Democratic renewal."

But whether it was simply the inhospitable atmosphere of the vast covered Olympic arena where he was speaking or whether the crisis in the party is too far gone, Herr Brandt failed to electrify the 440 delegates as he once could do so well.

His two-hour speech which blazed through reverberating microphones to the half-empty hall, sounded weak and lacked inspiring proposals. Afterwards delegates stood and applauded but there were no cheers.

Herr Brandt said he shared many of the aims of the peace movement and roused the strongest applause when he spoke of the "insanity of the contradiction between the arms race and world hunger."

He said he feared "the illusions of those who wanted unilateral disarmament" and said they were out of touch with reality. "I fear more the irrational consequences of unprovoked disarmament after the war," he said, "the policy of détente," he said, had not failed.

## Russians go it alone under the sea

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, April 19

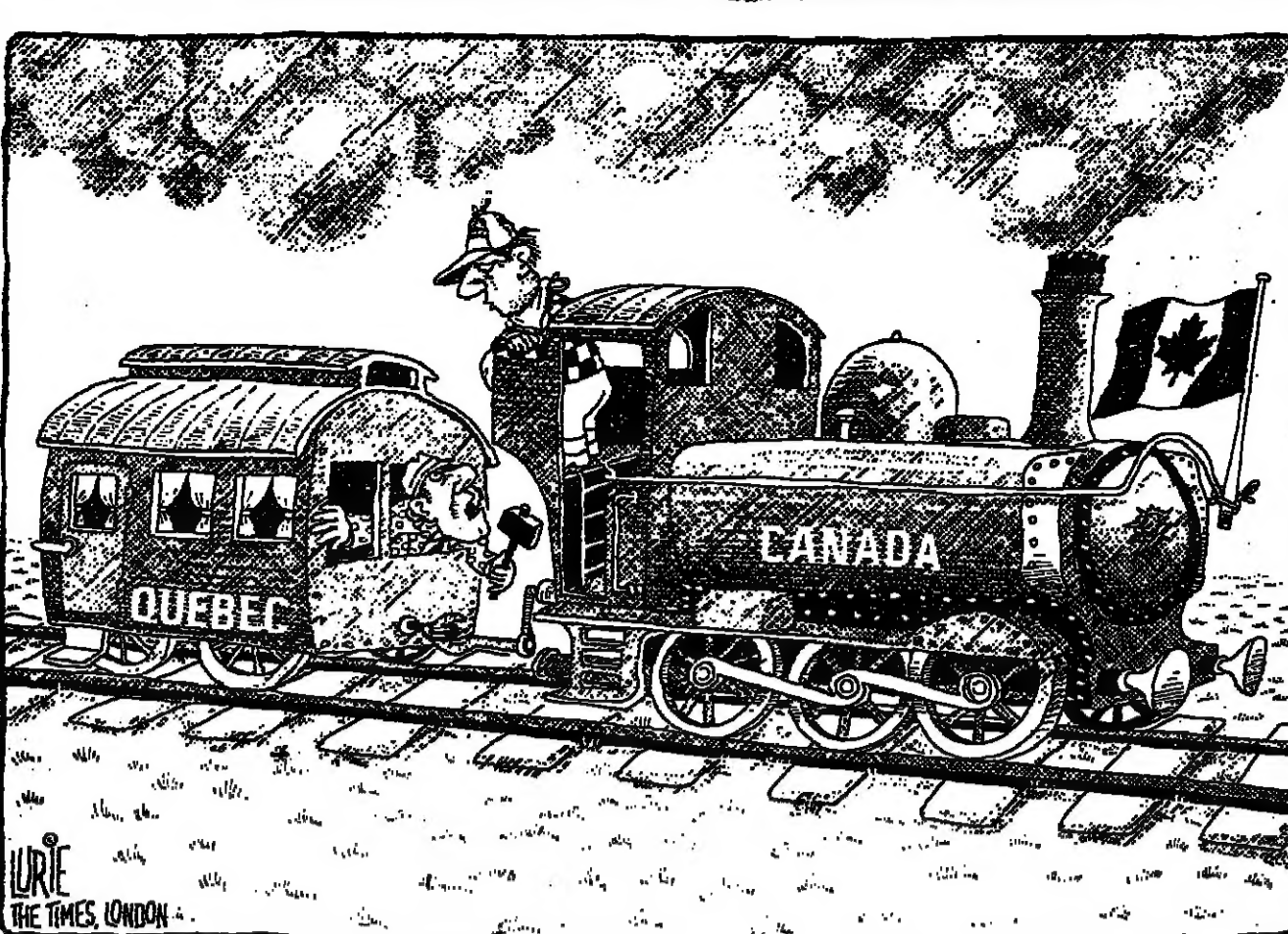
The Soviet Union has issued a decree allowing Soviet organizations to exploit mineral resources on the ocean floor outside territorial waters. The move has been officially described as a response to American attempts to change the draft convention on the Law of the Sea.

The decree, issued at the weekend by the Supreme Soviet, allows state enterprises to seek permits to prospect for resources beyond the limits of the continental shelf and lay down rules for exploitation. These deal with the setting up of off shore rigs, pollution control, observance of international law and freedom of navigation, and include regulations governing any joint ventures with foreign companies.

The preamble to the decree says the Russians have been forced to take measures to protect their interests, since other countries have already begun unilaterally to exploit the seabed. The Soviet Union was still in favour of an international agreement, however, and would still press for a successful conclusion to the present convention.

Commenting on the measures, *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya* said at the weekend that the draft law had taken eight years to negotiate and reflected a balance of interests that gave nobody unilateral advantage. It accused the Reagan Administration of going back on earlier American agreement and demanding fundamental revisions which were opposed alike by many capitalists, developing and socialist countries.

"American companies, in view of the unreliability of raw material imports for the American industry, have lately started displaying a still greater interest in the possibility of extracting strategic raw materials from sea and ocean beds," the paper said.



"We want to separate and proceed independently."

## Polish journalists vetted in 'good conduct' trials

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, April 19

The scene in the Polish newspaper office resembled one of those American television courtroom dramas of the 1950s, coyly subtitled "The case of the Howling Dog or Justice in the Afternoon".

At one end of the room sat four men soberly dressed, shuffling papers, scraping their chairs, coughing impatiently. Strategically positioned at a slight angle to the main table, another man radiates the curious blend of omniscience and omnipotence that comes from being both a journalist and a state-employed bureaucrat.

Facing the tribunal, there is a young rather nervous figure, leaning respectfully forward in his chair: the candidate for "verification". This is the process of weeding out the ideological impure, the rotten apples in the journalistic barrel. So far the tribunal system has been used mainly against Polish journalists and lawyers, though university lecturers fear that it might be soon used against them. According to Solidarity underground bulletin, 1,200 journalists have lost their jobs as a result of verification.

That seems, in the estimation of many journalists to be an exaggerated figure but certainly the combination of those ousted from their jobs by verification is suspended.

Those transferred from politics to sports departments — adds up to several hundred. *Gazeta Krakowska*, the Cracow party daily, alone lost 21 of its writing staff after martial law was imposed.

That kind of inquisition is "verification"? Those who go through it are generally told not to reveal details of the proceedings but, as the situation relaxes, journalists have been less chary of passing on information about the tribunals. In the first weeks after martial law it was clearly a tough experience.

Articles written by the journalist were presented as a type of evidence for the prosecution, though of course the tribunal has no formal legal status. Casual statements made in the presence of colleagues-cum-informers are mentioned and dissected. Particularly suspect were those who had covered the Solidarity congress in September 1981, presumably because of the danger of infection.

Nowadays the process has become calmer, more of a formality. Talking to a journalist who had just emerged much relieved from his verification, it is evident that a more offhand attitude now prevails. "They have got rid of who they want. The prospect of verification keeps people in line. People are afraid of challenging their editors or making a nuisance of themselves."

According to a journalist from a Polish news organization, there were four men on his tribunal which was chaired by a member of the Central Committee press department. Also taking part in the proceedings was his editor, simultaneously a journalist and a party official.

For the first 15 minutes, according to this journalist, he was not required to speak at all. His editor read out a glowing report on the virtues and of his political record. "We hope soon," he concluded, "to welcome him into the ranks of the party."

A hope, one need scarcely add, that has no basis in reality.

The first question to the candidate, a respected journalist in his news organization: "Why are you paid so much?"

The editor answers for his employee: "This is a further sign of the industriousness of Mr X". The editor thus acts almost as a defence lawyer, a Perry Mason. He does not want to lose a good worker, nor does he want to lose face with him.

The candidate is asked to explain the relative weakness of Solidarity in his news organization. The candidate has a smooth reply: Solidarity thrived on the tension between employers and the workforce, there was now no such tension in his organization. The questions then proceed along the lines of where did Solidarity go wrong? What were they planning? The candidate gives the right answers. The session then closes.

The editor is told soon afterwards that his journalist has "passed" and the process is then repeated with other reporters.

Here then is the measure of ideological purity in martial law Poland. What counts is not a citizen's attitude to the government, to the Communist party, to the military authorities, but rather the degree of sympathy with Solidarity.

"Those who are not against us, are for us," seems to be the guiding principle in Polish newspaper journalism. Television reporters however, are subjected to much stricter questioning.

## Swapo use mines in new attack

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, April 19

A trail of land mines has been laid by a large band of Swapo guerrillas which has infiltrated deep into Namibia.

As South African units continued a massive hunt-to-kill operation which began during the Easter weekend, a military spokesman said today that the mine-laying was a new tactic by Swapo (South West Africa People's Organisation).

Brigadier Jan Kloppe said in Windhoek that in the past Swapo insurgents had only set anti-personnel mines. "This is the first time that land mines have been encountered in the farming region," he said.

The Swapo force, estimated to be about 1,500 strong, has penetrated into the so-called "death triangle" bounded by the towns of Tsumeb, Tseibis and Oshana south of the Kavango homeland.

It is the largest incursion mounted by Swapo since South African forces carried out a series of raids against its bases in southern Angola and, according to the spokesman, indicates that the organization has been extensively re-equipped by the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries.

As well as mines, the guerrillas are believed to be carrying Sam 7 anti-aircraft missiles and forcing South African aircraft and helicopters hunting them to use evasive tactics.

Security forces have lost eight men killed in the operation, six when an armoured personnel carrier was ambushed.

Two black children, aged seven and 11, were also killed in a mine blast during the weekend.

Another farmer was badly injured in a separate mine blast and a young man in Pretoria and an army lieutenant was injured by shrapnel.

Two black children, aged seven and 11, were also killed in a mine blast during the weekend.

Security forces have lost eight men killed in the operation, six when an armoured personnel carrier was ambushed.

## Prisoners of conscience



## Russia: Dr Sergei Kovalyov

By Caroline Moorehead, Dr Sergei Adamovich Kovalyov, a noted Soviet dissident, has been sentenced to a seven-year term in a corrective labour colony for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda."

Dr Kovalyov was a founder member of Dr Andrei Sakharov's Initiative Group for the Defence of Human Rights in the Soviet Union, and a member of the Moscow Amnesty Group.

Before his arrest in 1974 he had signed protests against conditions on labour camps and against the use of psychiatric hospitals to punish dissidents. He had also appealed publicly on behalf of individual prisoners of conscience and spoken out against the repression of religious minorities.

In December 1974 the KGB secret police searched Dr Kovalyov's apartment and came away with documents concerning human rights activities. He was arrested and tried in secret. His trial is believed to have been a gross abuse of Soviet judicial procedures and to have violated the Helsinki Accord.

Reports suggest that Dr Kovalyov, confined to his cell, suffers from head-aches, bleeding gums and hypertension and is losing his teeth.

## Spanish army takes over border control

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, April 19

Spanish Army units took up positions along the French border today to prevent illegal crossings. They were putting into effect one of the special anti-terrorist measures adopted by the Spanish Government after a weekend of violence in which Basque extremists took advantage of an apparent security lapse to blow up the country's most important automatic telephone exchange.

The escalation of terrorism which began with a bazooka attack in San Sebastian last Wednesday, has continued. Terrorists attacked a barracks of the Civil Guard at Eibar, near San Sebastian, with grenades and sub-machine guns, just before midnight last night. One civilian was wounded when police returned fire. He was hit by a stray bullet while the police were firing at the police barracks.

The mounting violence is related to a demand by ETA terrorists that the Government remove all forces of public order from the Basque country by the middle of next month.

An offer by the Interior Ministry of a 10m pesetas (€54,000) reward for information leading to the arrest of the ETA gang who are involved in the offensive, was broadcast throughout today on radio and television news programmes, and by late this afternoon authorities said there had already been considerable response.

Workers were still cleaning up the rubble at the site of the wrecked telephone exchange here. The broad street running in front of the exchange's skeletal remains as reopened to traffic this afternoon. Telephone services, with certain limitations, were restored in most of the capital today but inter-provincial calls could be made only through operators.

A data processing system used by banks and financial institutions was put back into service today, with some limitations, through the use of other memory banks. A team of architects said repairs to the five-storey reinforced concrete building would take about two months to complete.

The special measures adopted after an unusual Sunday meeting between senior Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, and key members of his Cabinet, included the cancellation of all leave for members of the armed forces and the public order forces, the assignment of military units to guard certain stations, and the use of army personnel, rather than police, for border control.

Some of the measures were designed to free policemen from other duties in order to make as many of them as possible available for duty in anti-terrorist operations.

While not all aspects of the anti-terrorist operation were revealed, it appears to resemble closely the series of steps taken early last year to reduce the terrorist threat.

Those efforts met with considerable success, judging by the reduction in the number of extremist attacks, and the armed forces were gradually pulled back from police-type duties as the result of pressure seemed to diminish.

Police sources say that all of the ETA's terrorist squads, whose members normally reside in France, are in Spain, taking part in the offensive.

## Women internees likely to be freed

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw, April 19

Polish Authorities appear to be preparing the release of a substantial number of women internees according to unofficial reports coming from detention camps. Some military units have been told that they will soon be able to use holiday centres now being used as detention camps.

These reports may simply mean that the women are being transferred to other internment camps but two related developments indicate that a release is planned, probably next month. Archbishop Józef Glemp, the Polish Primate, called at the weekend for the freeing of women prisoners, interned without trial.

This was an unusually specific appeal at a time when the Government is showing increasing readiness to talk with the Catholic church. Secondly, there are indications, from underground bulletins, that some women occupied important posts in the suspended Solidarity organization, so the risks of the released prisoners forming a rallying point for the opposition are slight.

Meanwhile, it is understood that Warsaw police have found the transmitter used to broadcast the illegal Solidarity radio bulletin last week. Apparently the broadcast had been taped recorded beforehand and then plugged into a primitive transmitter.

Rome: Archbishop Józef Glemp is to visit Rome for consultations with the Pope on April 26, it was announced here today. — Reuter.

Freeing women internees would not only appease the church, it would also represent a relatively painless propaganda move for the authorities. Only a few women occupied important posts in the suspended Solidarity organization, so the risks of the released prisoners forming a rallying point for the opposition are slight.

Meanwhile, it is understood that Warsaw police have found the transmitter used to broadcast the illegal Solidarity radio bulletin last week. Apparently the broadcast had been taped recorded beforehand and then plugged into a primitive transmitter.

Rome: Archbishop Józef Glemp is to visit Rome for consultations with the Pope on April 26, it was announced here today. — Reuter.

## Two faces of Basque nationalism baffle Madrid

From Harry Debelius, Bilbao, April 19

During the night several young men carefully taped a small package to the metal door of a solidly built transformer shed at Lezama, near Bilbao. Then they pulled back to a safe distance and, in the pre-dawn hours of Easter morning, pressed a button. Three towns and one Bilbao district were plunged into darkness.

A few hours later, in a vast fair pavilion in Bilbao, a balding, mustachioed man in a white vest and blue denim trousers, with a blue sash wound around his waist, lifted a 220lb cylindrical stone to his right shoulder and time and time again, bobbing steadily up and down with rarely a pause to catch his breath.

He hoisted it 102 times in 10 minutes before he stopped. Onlookers applauded and shouted *Gora!*

Each in his own way, the stone-lifter and the bombers were doing the same thing: commemorating *Eguna*, the Basque National Day.

The stone-lifter and those of his compatriots with similar patience and determination were celebrating the centenary of the rebirth of Basque nationalism, through the midwifery of Sabino Arana, author and founder of the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV).

They were also celebrating the fifteenth Basque National Day, first organized in 1932 to show how mistaken Miguel Primo de Rivera, the Spanish dictator, had been when he said that Basque nationalism was dead.

The men who placed the explosive charge are members of the ETA terrorist organization, marking in their secessionist way *Aberri-Eguna* under the rule of Madrid.

That bomb was but a small sample of the violence which erupted later in the week, when ETA was to escalate its urban guerrilla war, firing bazooka shells in several cities and blowing up the country's most important telephone exchange.

Despite the nationalist fervour, more than half the population of the Basque region was not born there.

Most of the immigrants are from the depressed regions of Andalusia and Extremadura, attracted to the Basque country by its once buoyant but currently stagnant economy.

Even among the people whose ancestors were born in the region, there are many who cannot speak the ancient Basque tongue. Franco did not allow it to be taught, published, broadcast or used for official purposes.

Yet, so contagious is their love of the land — and so deep are the roots of those returned from exile — that even the children of many Andalusian immigrants are eager learners at the *Ikastolas* (schools where all instruction is conducted in Euskera) and *Batzokis* (meeting houses and cultural centres sponsored by the dominant Basque Nationalist Party).

There was another, more commonplace, but nevertheless significant, activity on *Aberri-Eguna*: the Basque National Day: scuffles between demonstrators and riot police.

The demonstrations, involving no more than a few hundred persons in each case, were staged throughout the region by a pro-ETA political coalition, the *Herri Batasuna* (People's Unity), were sparked by the Madrid-appointed provincial governor's ban on *Aberri-Eguna* meetings.

It is impossible to overlook the violence in the Basque country, but while some people there abhor it, others try to justify it, claiming that Madrid tries to silence systematically even the most unselfish manifestations of nationalist sentiment. Moderates, as well as extremists, feel that the Basque country does not have enough control over its own affairs. The difference is in the way they react to that situation.

In the past few years, nearly all Basque political leaders have moved away from their previous somewhat ambiguous stand on terrorism. After the latest round of bazooka attacks and bombs, Señor Carlos Garaikoetxea, of the Basque Nationalist Party and the president of the regional government, issued a communiqué condemning "any attempt to justify, or to diminish the guilt attached to these crimes which constitute a desperate attempt to provoke reactionary elements and sink democracy."

At the same time he expressed "the will to assume as soon as possible in Euzkadi the responsibilities and the authorities in police matters which the autonomous region is entitled by statute to assume."

Moderate politicians in Bilbao feel that it is a mistake to use the police against the more radical political forces, and it is a mistake to ban their meetings, unless there is a reasonable expectation that violence might occur.

Such a reaction by the forces which represent the central Spanish Government only lends credence to the extreme nationalists' present denunciations of "oppression" by "occupation forces". Worse still, abuse of force and instances of torture by police, the moderates explain, make excellent recruiting arguments for ETA.

## Mauroy an unhappy man in the middle

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, April 19

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, today attempted to arbitrate in the clash between M. Gaston Defferre, his Minister of the Interior, and M. Robert Badinter, his Minister of Justice, which broke out into the open last week over the extension of police powers.

True to his temperament, more inclined to confrontation than to laying down the law, the Prime Minister reminded the two men of their duty of solidarity. Government policy was decided in Cabinet and not thrashed out in public debate on the market place, as it has been too frequently since the Government took office, last June.

He also tried to placate both: the Minister of Justice, by confirming that the "security and liberty" law of the previous conservative Government, which sharply tightened up the powers of the police and the courts, would definitely be repealed by the end of the parliamentary session in June; and the Minister of the Interior by assuring him that the whole Government, including the Minister of Justice, shared his concern to ensure the security of Frenchmen.

The Prime Minister's Solomon judgment is likely to satisfy neither, and once again President Mitterrand will have to take in hand personally an affair which is much more than a conflict between two of his own ministers. It is a controversy which raises fundamental questions of policy, and threatens the cohesion and credibility of the left wing coalition in power since last summer.

Incidentally, it has dealt another blow to the authority of M. Mauroy, who already faces criticism not only in Communist ranks, which is natural, but also in Socialist ones for his concessions last week to employers over tax and other cost cuts.

It will not be the first time M. Mitterrand has had to straighten out differences between members of the Government. The Socialist tendency to doctrinal debate waxes more fiercely when he is abroad, and his steady hand is removed from the tiller.

Last December, while on a state visit to the Soviet Union, he had to still the controversy in Government and party over the "pause" in reforms called for by M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister. This time, no sooner back from Japan, he must restore the cohesion of government policy over law and order and over its economic objectives.

The surprising concessions to employers in taxes and social costs have been widely interpreted on the left and on the right as a "pause" which dare not say its name, a switch of realism to realism which the setback of the left in the local elections last month called for: nothing short of a "social democratisation" of change.

The Communists have not been slow to condemn these "concessions" to employers, to point out that the compromise was not achieved by compromise to the right. Even in the Socialist Party and some trade unions, concern is voiced that the Government has been forced into giving a good deal away with only the vague assurance that the employers will respond by stepping up investment.

## Malaysian rulers seek mandate for change

From David Watts, Singapore, April 19

When Malaysians go to the polls on Thursday they will be voting in their country's most important election since independence, breaking the last slender connexion with the colonial past.

Danuk Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, the Prime Minister, is seeking a mandate for a rigorous new style of government which has so far shown neither fear nor favour in attacking corruption and in adopting policies typified by an unwillingness to think along conventional lines or to compromise.

No one seriously suggests that he will not win the election, which has been surprisingly short of issues, but the poll results will indicate how far the policies of concession and compromise, which were the hallmark of the previous Government, may be abandoned.

The election is at both state and national levels, and an indication of the determination to break with the past can be seen from the dropping of no fewer than 59 candidates of the ruling United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) coalition at national level. It is a measure also of the Government's confidence that it will at least retain its 133 seats out of the 154 seats in the Parliament.

The opposition is seeking to reduce the Government's tenure of two-thirds of the seats in the House and deprive it of the ability to amend the constitution at will.

Since independence in 1957 there have been hundreds of amendments to the constitution which the opposition has been powerless to resist. The Opposition fears these modifications might continue under Dr Mahathir if he gains a strong electoral endorsement.

The chances of the Opposition severely denting the Government's hold in the main body of the peninsula Malay states is slim. The Government has used its dominance to blanket the local, with outside political rallies banned, the opposition parties can scarcely match the Government's ability to get a message across.

But in the northern states close to the Thai border the Government has had less of its own way. This area is traditionally less impressed with the central government than candidates from Partai Islam (PAS) and other opposition groups such as the Democratic Action Party (DAP), which is strongly Chinese.

At the last election in 1978 PAS had only recently broken away from the Umno coalition of parties and had no time to build an independent organization. This time it will undoubtedly get the Government a run for its money.

Malaysia's closed-door political meetings attended by invitation only, have been poorly attended with Umno as the hosts, in contrast to the turnout for PAS meetings in the north.

But if the fundamentalist Muslims of PAS are any kind of a threat to the Government Dr Mahathir's duty to reduce it when he coopted into Umno Mr Tawar Ibrahim, a dynamic young Muslim, who had been tipped as its next leader. It's that kind of political skill which will ensure that Dr Mahathir's victory is comfortable.

## Europe decides on equal summers for all

From George Clark, Strasbourg, April 19

Calling attention to the difficulties caused to travellers by different dates for the end of summer time from the rest of the European Community, the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday backed the EEC Commission's Proposal for a uniform arrangement.

This would ensure that summer time in the period 1983 to 2000 will start on the last Sunday in March, unless this is celebrated as Easter in one or more member states, in which event the summer-time will start on the previous Sunday. It will end on the second Sunday in October.

This year summer time will end on October 24 in Britain and Ireland, and on September 26 in the rest of the EEC.



## Courtroom uproar after Begin minister convicted

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, April 19

Mr Abuhazzeira, the Israeli Minister of Labour, Welfare and Immigrant Absorption, was convicted in the district court here today of misuse of money from a charitable fund he controlled when he was mayor of Ramla before joining the Begin government. He could receive a three-year imprisonment for theft and shorter sentences for lesser offences. Sentencing was deferred until Wednesday.

The conviction triggered a frenzied demonstration by hundreds of fellow immigrants from North Africa, who claim the minister had been a victim of ethnic discrimination. Demonstrators jamming the stairway to the sixth-floor courtroom chanted: "Sephardi state, Sephardi state" and sang: "Abraham, king of Israel, lives on." In the courtroom, a spectator shouted: "This is a Dreyfus case, antisemitic and anti-Sephardi." Policemen hustled him, kicking and screaming, outside.

Tami, the ethnic party founded by Mr Abuhazzeira before the last general election, tonight passed a vote of confidence in their leader, who told them: "They'll not

break me." The party, with three seats in the Knesset, is part of Menachem Begin's ruling coalition, which has 60 of the 120 seats in Parliament.

Israeli law does not prevent a convicted thief from retaining his membership of the Government and Parliament. The Prime Minister is empowered to oust him from the Government and Parliament can vote to suspend his membership pending the outcome of an appeal. Such action would probably cause Tami to quit the coalition and bring down the Government.

If Mr Abuhazzeira loses his appeal and is sentenced to at least one year's imprisonment, Parliament can vote to expel him.

In court today Judge Victoria Ostrowsky-Kohn said Mr Abuhazzeira, as mayor of Ramla, had supplied false information in recommending a Ministry of Interior grant for a fund in memory of his late father, to help needy students. She said Mr Abuhazzeira and Mr Moshe Gabai, the treasurer, who was also convicted, used the funds like a "private estate". The largest fund went to themselves and their

political cronies rather than to the needy, she said.

Mr Abuhazzeira was indicted on May 24, the same day he was acquitted of an earlier charge of accepting kickbacks from initiated government grants to educational institutions when he was Minister for Religious Affairs in Mr Begin's previous government.

This was cited today by his supporters as evidence of a crusade against him by Jews of European stock, who dominate the Israeli establishment. They said the 44-year-old leader had been a rapidly rising political figure and "they wanted to clip his wings".

His supporters also claimed that the judge had been prejudiced.

Mr Abuhazzeira is the first Cabinet minister to be convicted of a crime, but highly placed officials previously jailed include a nominee for governor of the Bank of Israel, a member of Parliament and a former mayor of Rehovot and a director of customs.

A Prime Minister was also compelled to resign because his wife kept foreign bank accounts in a Washington bank. All were of European stock.

First there was a series of leaks to The New York Times about a dispute with the White House over which aircraft he should use on his journeys between Washington, London and Buenos Aires.

White House officials said Mr Haig declined to fly in the first aircraft that was offered to him because it did not have any windows. Mr Haig's aides contended that it was not the lack of windows that concerned him, but that he wanted an aircraft with better communication facilities.

Last week BBC television news carried a leak that the United States was providing military intelligence and communications assistance to Britain.

The report also alleged that Mr Haig's role of "honest broker" between Britain and Argentina, and caused him to make a firm statement that the United States was only fulfilling bilateral agreements and would not need to say new requests for assistance as long as the present negotiations continued.

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## FALKLANDS CRISIS

### Haig future may rest on peaceful solution

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 19

The outcome of Mr Alexander Haig's attempts to find a solution to the Falklands crisis is being seen in Washington as of critical importance to his own future as Secretary of State.

As the talks with the junta in Buenos Aires dragged on through the weekend, the White House was growing speculation that his tenure at the State Department would be thrown into question if he returned to Washington without having reached agreement on a peace formula.

At the same time, however, it was being conceded that if he was able to prevent an outbreak of hostilities between Britain and Argentina, his position within the Administration would be greatly enhanced.

Officials here have continued to remain silent about the progress of his mediation effort. However, the latest reports from Buenos Aires today indicated that a solution was beginning to emerge.

Mr Haig has been the target of a whispering campaign of criticism ever since he began his shuttle diplomacy 12 days ago.

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It said that Mr George Shultz, former Treasury Secretary, and Mr Donald Rumsfeld, former Defence Secretary, were among names being mentioned as possible successors.

Mr Haig, who is one of the few senior members of the Administration not to be mentioned in the media, has been involved in an almost continuous series of personal feuds since his appointment by President Reagan. At one stage he complained about a failure to defend the Falklands crisis, and at another he was accused of "waging a campaign" against him.

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### Junta rules out Red Cross visit

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, April 19

Argentina has refused to allow an official of the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the Falklands, to look after the welfare of civilians.

In a reply to the ICRC's request, it said: "This is not necessary for the time being under present circumstances."

Officials said the ICRC would maintain contact with the Argentine authorities. Dr Paulo Parra, President of the International Association Against Torture, today accused General Galtieri's regime of taking advantage of the crisis to settle scores with political prisoners.

### Scottish unions told to prepare for election

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Scottish trade unionists were yesterday alerted to the prospect of an early general election in the wake of the Falklands Islands crisis.

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, has cancelled his appearance at the Scottish Trade Union Congress, due today, to be in Westminster for political developments in the conflict with Argentina.

But last night, Mrs Helen Liddell, Secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, told delegates that the leadership of the Labour movement looked to the Scottish TUC as the first big union conference of the year "to give a lead, to take us into preparation for an early general election."

Branding the Social Democrats as a force attempting to divide the Labour vote, she said: "Even as we speak there is a possibility of a general election in not so many months. This is a country at war. Who would have thought it a year ago? It makes my blood run cold."

"Nevertheless, no fascist right-wing dictator will be allowed to dictate to the world how we run our affairs. Time is running out. We must strive to find a diplomatic solution to save the lives of those at risk."

A number of unions are putting together a strongly worded motion on the Falklands Islands issue for emergency debate but the first draft proved unacceptably weak to the left, which sees this crisis as a prize opportunity to attack both the Argentine junta and Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet.

Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday that the invasion of the Falklands had "highlighted the folly of this Government's cuts in traditional naval expenditure" (Donald Macintyre writes).



Occupation strategy: General Mario Menéndez, the Falklands "governor", speaking to his officers.

## 1,000 troops embark as more civilian ships are called up

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Nearly 1,000 more soldiers including the 2nd Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, began embarking for the Falkland Islands yesterday as the Ministry of Defence continued to prepare a military expedition.

The paratroopers, together with engineers and artillery, are sailing on the MV Norland from Hull, and on the Eurogrip Ferry (4,190 tons) requisitioned from Townsend-Thornes, which they will begin boarding tomorrow at Southampton.

The Ministry also announced the chartering of the 15,974-ton Anco Charger, now at Portsmouth, from P & O and Ocean Transport and Trading, which own it jointly.

The number of civilian ships in use has risen meanwhile to 28. Fifteen of them had been requisitioned and the others are under charter.

Meanwhile the Royal Navy is turning three of its survey vessels, the 2,733-ton Hecia and Hydra and the 2,945-ton Herald into casualty ferries which in addition will be used to carry wounded troops to the big hospital ship, the requisitioned cruise ship Uganda.

The Hydra and the Herald are now at Portsmouth while Hecia has already left Gibraltar on its way to join the task force in the South Atlantic.

The paratroopers are the second battalion of the Parachute Regiment to leave for the Falklands. The 3rd Battalion is already on the Canberra, the requisitioned cruise liner with the task force.

The presence of paratroops does not, however, necessarily reflect a plan to make a parachute assault on Port Stanley or elsewhere. The two battalions are part of the Army's 5th Brigade, based on Aldershot, which is designated for military operations outside NATO.

Two more battalions, not so far identified, will take their place in 5th Brigade alongside a regiment of Gurkhas.

The additional troops raise the number of soldiers with the task force to about 2,500, or more than 4,000 when the Royal Marines are included. But the task force would probably need many more men if it is directed to take Port Stanley by force.

The Ministry also confirmed that British Shipbuilders has been asked to accelerate the completion of the Illustrious, the second aircraft carrier of the Invincible class, which is due to

enter service on the second half of next year. There is however understood to be no question of it joining the present task force.

Most of the Argentine fleet was scuttled yesterday, although well outside the Maritime Exclusion Zone around the Falklands.

Seven Royal Marines who spent three days in the Falklands eastern interior after the Argentine invasion were expected to arrive at RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire today (from David Hewison).

The most left Montonistas yesterday sent a Royal Air Force DC19 accompanied by 22 Montonistas to the invasion of South Georgia and 13 members of the British Antarctic Survey who were taken into custody in the same action.

The Ministry of Defence has pursued a "no war, no peace" policy, and on press interviews with the Marines when the aircraft were expected to arrive at the RAF base.

At the request of the Uruguayan authorities, they made no statements in the press, although several Montonistas were seen to be carrying small arms.

Argentine forces are believed to have captured the Falklands, buried their United Jack before surrendering to the Argentine forces.

## British imperialism attacked

From David Blom, Vienna, April 19

The East European press has roundly condemned British imperialism and United States power, politics in the Falklands dispute.

Triumph, the Czechoslovak party daily, wrote: "The British imperialist policy is to blame for the Falklands crisis. Britain is ready to go to war to keep one of its last colonies."

"Colonialism, one of the most disgusting products of imperialism, is to blame for the Falklands crisis. Britain is ready to go to war to keep one of its last colonies."

The British Conservative Government, its Prime Minister Thatcher and the bourgeoisie circles she represents are "exploiting the situation subliminally seeking a military solution to the problem, apparently forgetting that Britain has long lost its imperial position."

The United States, it is claimed, is "exploiting the situation subliminally seeking a military solution to the problem, apparently forgetting that Britain has long lost its imperial position."

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## Argentina's other dispute

### Shadow of invasion over Beagle Channel isles

The Beagle Channel dispute between Argentina and Chile centres on three small islands — Picton, Lennox and Nueva — which are of no great value in themselves. Their significance is that they are the only islands in the region, whoever owns them can lay claim to a vast area of the South Atlantic which is thought to be rich in natural resources, and that ownership will also affect the three islands lie on the Atlantic side of South America.

The islands have been disputed by the two countries since the last century. In recent years the issue has flared up again, as the riches of the region have become better known. Argentina was on the point of going to war over them in 1978, when it was persuaded to desist by the Pope.

The islands lie at the eastern end of the Beagle Channel, which runs along the south coast of Tierra del Fuego. The channel is named after the ship in which Captain Robert Fitzroy first discovered it on a voyage in 1828-1830 — and in which Charles Darwin sailed on a later voyage.

In 1971, Britain was asked to mediate in the dispute under the terms of a treaty signed between Argentina and Chile at the beginning of the century. The Government referred the case to a panel of five judges of the International Court of Justice, and adopted their ruling as its own when it was made in 1977.

This ruling was clearly in favour of Chile, awarding the

three islands to that country. But it was subsequently rejected by Argentina, which began to raise the temperature by making military moves and threatening to take the islands by force.

Argentina's main objection is that by the terms of an agreement signed with Chile in 1893, Chile was to be regarded as a purely Pacific power, and Argentina — a purely Atlantic one — was to be regarded as a purely Atlantic power.

After the British award had been rejected by the Argentine, negotiations were held between Chile and Argentina in an attempt to reach an agreed settlement. But these made little headway and the atmosphere became increasingly tense until it became clear at the end of 1978 that Argentina was about to go to war.

At that point, President Carter asked the Pope to intervene in order to prevent a war, which he did. It was agreed that Argentina and Chile would present the cases to him and that he would make recommendations for a settlement.

These recommendations were made in December, 1980, and have not been made public. It is known, however, that like the earlier British award, the Vatican has broadly found in favour of Chile; and Chile has accepted the recommendations in spite of reservations about some aspects of them.

Argentina, however, has not accepted the Vatican's recommendations.



He said that if the Argentine succeeded in retaining the Falkland Islands, the Russians would say that they had helped the Argentine achieve this position and would insist on a quid pro quo, "which would be some presence in the South Atlantic."

Sir Nicholas added: "I can just imagine if there was a Soviet base or Soviet military facilities on the Falkland Islands. It's a very serious matter."

Mr. Gonsky, a diplomatic source in Guyana, believes that Venezuela and Guatemala may take military action to resolve territorial claims if Mr. Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, fails in his efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the Falklands crisis.

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Mugger shot by police

Paris Police shot dead a member of a gang of four youths who attacked two American tourists with knives near the Champs Elysees on Saturday night.

The three-man police patrol, travelling in an unmarked car, arrested the other attackers who had been trying to steal cameras, a wallet and a bag from the tourists.

### Vietnam pays human debts

Tokyo. — A large number of Vietnamese workers are being sent to the Soviet Union as "part of Vietnam's repayment of debts" to Moscow, according to the newspaper Yomiuri.

Quoting Japanese officials and foreign diplomats, Yomiuri said Hanoi had sent about 10,000 workers to the Soviet Union as a means of covering a deficit in its foreign currency reserves. They are working at industrial compounds south of Moscow.

### Peace team in Tehran

An Islamic peace team has arrived in Tehran, from the Iranian news agency reported.

The team is headed by President Sakou Toure, of Guinea, and El Habib Chérif, the Tunisian Secretary-General of the 43-member Islamic Conference Organization.

### Eanes returns to Portugal

Luanda. — President Eanes of Portugal has returned to Lisbon after a four-day visit to Angola that included a two-hour meeting with Mr Sam Nujoma, the leader of Swapo. He said that Portugal was ready to contribute to a solution for Namibian independence.

### Pagoda hit halted

Peking. — Engineers have stopped China's 1,000-year-old counterpart to the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the 156ft Tiger Hill Pagoda of Suzhou, from tilting further for the first time since the seventeenth century.

### Plugging bus crash

Tarbes. Hautes Pyrénées. — Two people were killed and 30 injured when a bus carrying Spanish pilgrims from Lourdes collided with a lorry.

## Two Australian ministers resign in customs affair

Canberra, April 19. — Australia's health and customs ministers resigned tonight over the Health Minister's failure to declare a miniature television radio-cassette to customs last October.

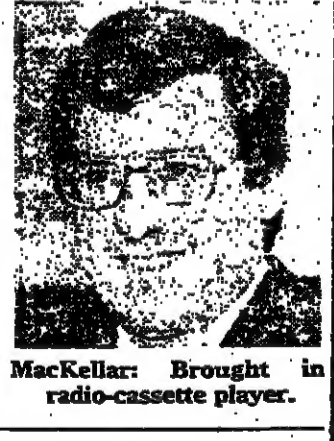
After five hours of discussions with senior ministers, Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, announced he had accepted the resignations of Mr Michael MacKellar, aged 43, the Minister for Health, and Mr John Moore, aged 45, who as Business and Consumer Affairs Minister, was responsible for customs.

The affair has caused a new, potentially destructive crisis for Mr Fraser, who is already beset by economic difficulties including high interest rates, inflation and unemployment, which have caused the popularity of his Government to plummet.

Earlier this month Mr Fraser beat off a challenge to his leadership of the Liberal Party from Mr Andrew Peacock, the former Foreign Minister. Some political analysts tonight were predicting that the new crisis could

weaken Mr Fraser's position and cause a further challenge.

Mr MacKellar said at the weekend that he failed to declare the \$250 (£142) portable colour television radio-cassette when he bought it into Sydney from Hong Kong. Mr Moore admitted being told of the matter by a senior member of his ministry and said he decided not to pursue it after reprimanding Mr MacKellar by telephone.



## Indian police use tear gas to break up riot

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, April 19

Police have ordered a ban on meetings and processions in Bangalore and Chitradurga in South India, after rioting and arson over the status of one of the country's many languages.

Two people were killed and many injured, buses and cars were burnt and buildings damaged in the two cities. Police used bullets, lathis and tear gas to break up rampaging crowds.

The rioting was over the Kannada language, official tongue of the state of Karnataka, spoken by 24 million people.

The disturbances spring from a language commission recommendation that Kannada, as the majority tongue in Karnataka, should have first place in all the state's schools. This upset those speaking Urdu, Tamil and Marathi and they complained of discrimination.

Kannada militants, joined by a leading film star who drew large crowds, clashed with their opponents. Feelings are running high.

Like caste, language in India is always a potential source of trouble. As well as the official language, Hindi, spoken by two fifths of the

people, there are 14 other languages recognized under the constitution. These are Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu and Sindhi.

There are also 1,652 languages and dialects listed in the census as mother tongue and 10 main scripts.

Although Hindi is the official language it can never be the national language. It is primarily a language of Northern India and there is strong resistance to it in some other parts of the country, for example among speakers of Bengali and Tamil. Central Government ministers visiting the South often make a point of reassuring audiences that Delhi will not impose Hindi.

The only language understood in all parts of India is English. It is recognized as the authoritative judicial and legislative language, and in practice is the main language of Parliament, official business and countrywide communication.

It is, however, a minority tongue spoken by only 12 million of India's 700 million people. Its place in India is endlessly controversial.



حکومت من الاجل

ing to his officers.

## British imperialism attacked

From David Blow  
Vienna, April 19

The East European press has roundly condemned British imperialism and United States power politics in the Falkland dispute. The Czechoslovak press, daily *Rude Pravo* has been especially critical. "Imperialism, one of the most disgusting products of capitalism policy, is to blame for the Falklands crisis. Britain is ready to go to war to defend one of its last colonies."

The British Conservative Prime Minister, Mr. Margaret Thatcher, and the bombastic American representative, Mr. Jeane Kirkpatrick, are sharpening the conflict by stubbornly seeking a military solution to the dispute. Apparently forgetting that Britain has long been a peace-loving nation.

The United States also has its own selfish interests... it has forgotten the peace-loving people of the area come from the same sources."

Mr. *Rude Pravo* wrote that the British wanted to build a base on the Falklands. "The British want to only control the Antarctic. Antarctica is guarded by the superpowers... the whole world is struggling to Africa. In other words, the power of the United States is being maintained by military interests..."

It was not a concern of the United States or Argentina. It was a matter of power.

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## The Rolls-Royce is not the car it was.

THE SILVER SPIRIT - MORE A DRIVER'S CAR THAN CHARLES ROLLS EVER DREAMED OF.

Once, the privileged position in the Rolls-Royce was the rear passenger seat.

In today's Silver Spirit the driver is king.

He sits in a seat more sumptuous than that created for the maharajas

of the twenties. Hand-stitched, hand-shaped, it is electrically adjustable in eight different directions.

He, quite literally, breathes a different atmosphere from the rest of mankind. The air conditioning in a Silver Spirit is the most sophisticated

there has ever been in a motor car.

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But more of that tomorrow.





## THE ARTS

## Galleries

## A witty eye upon the follies of sensuality

## Six Indian Painters

Tate Gallery

Norman Stevens

Redfern Gallery

Royal Academy

Retrospective

Burlington House

A School of Rational Builders

Heinz Gallery

The scale of the Tate Gallery's contribution to the Festival of India seems exactly right. A modest selection of the works of Six Indian Painters of the twentieth century occupies two rooms (until May 23) and may be digested alongside nearby rooms of European modern art. It was chosen by Howard Hodgkin, who visits India frequently, and he has contrived an unpredictable painter's-eye package that is both intimate and varied.

The artist from whom I got most immediate pleasure — and fun — was K. G. Subramanyan. At first, the small, densely-hung paintings of luridly-pink women, painted on glass or acrylic backed with gleaming gold sheet, have the repulsive allure of a cheap bazaar. But closer inspection, and separation of the images, leads one into a robust world of sensual reverie. There are girls with petals and flowers and fruit; not polite domestic settings, but come-hither expressions, opulent blooms, and the surprise of a vigorous goat on a nude lap. The technique is lush and deft, the glass smooth to the brush. Mirrors, windows and pictures all feature in the paintings, so that sometimes one is unsure which is the "live" image and which the reflection or reproduction. Erotic desire, however, and, as in a Chagall, they may be more real than the actual setting. Subramanyan sets out to "present the follies of the sensual life", and succeeds in creating a boudoir world, dominated by strawberry-ice-cream voluptuaries, with wit and virtuosity.

On the neighbouring wall, M. F. Husain takes us into the streets where the colossal fantasies of the painted cinema hoardings loom over mere mortals. These are in fact photographs, but Husain's main preoccupation has been painting, and the composition of the pictures reminds one more of the Pop collages of the 1960s than photographic essays in social realism. The Indian film industry is an amazing monster, and nowhere, it would seem, more than in its visual dominance of parts of the urban environment. Huge cut-out figures gesticulate histrionically, ignored by chatting cyclists, and a woman picks over a wasteground of rubble, alone apart from the painted giants above her. When Husain first went to Bombay to become an artist in the 1930s, he



The robust reverie of K. G. Subramanyan's "Girl with Cat 2"

supported himself by painting such hoardings (he could manage the scale by eye and did not have to square up the film stars' photographs like most billboard painters), so there is a personal irony in these images as well as a social one.

Ghupen Khakhar's paintings stylistically owe a sense of space to European art, but are entirely Indian in content. They are narratives — *Death in the Family*, *Celebration of Guru Jayanti* — in which bright colours and soft brushwork give an initial impact of melting clarity, which is quickly followed by a sense of the complexity of the subject and the

feelings that inspired it. The key male figures in the pictures are unassuming but slightly desperate, men who cannot blend unthinkingly into their environment because they question it — like the *Muktoahini Soldier* in his spectacles and shapless vest. Perhaps the most private of the paintings in the exhibition, their spirit as much as their images remains in the mind.

Grouped in the second room are the works of three artists no longer alive — Rabindranath Tagore, Amrita Sher-Gil and Jamini Roy. It is, perhaps, appropriate that Tagore should be included, since in the early part of this

century he was for many a kind of one-man bridge between Indian and European culture. He did not, however, start painting until he was 67, when he decided that the doodles in the margins of his manuscripts "cried out, like sinners, for salvation". From then, until his death 14 years later, he produced hundreds of pictures in ink and gouache, mainly images of birds and faces — the expanded doodles of a lively subconscious. Amrita Sher-Gil, an Indo-Hungarian, set out to combine the two cultures of her birth, using her studies in Europe to find a way of expressing her experience of India. She died young, and her

sombre figure paintings, using the deep reds and ochres of Indian fabrics, show the beginning of her quest. Jamini Roy, by contrast, turned from the Western techniques he learned as a student to the style and methods of the folk-artists of Bengal. His are the most traditional-looking paintings in the exhibition, but then one receives a pleasant jolt on discovering that the decorative pictures, which tend to merge as similar patterns to the untrained European eye, are in fact depicting the *Last Supper* and the *Flight to Egypt* as well as the expected Krishna.

In many of his paintings at the Redfern (until April 30), particularly the larger ones, Norman Stevens takes anonymous sections of the built environment and gives them a cool, formal treatment in which the shadows are as much part of the subject-matter as the objects. In fact in *Park Bench* there is only the shadow, the bench itself is out of the frame. The most ambitious painting, *Born*, shows a collapsing structure, like a sky through barbed wire that makes a dark lattice of shadow on the fallen timbers below. In *Construction Co.* two planks are propped against the closed entry to a building site, and together with the shadows they create like some forgotten geometrical problem in the sun. They are calm paintings, the kind that might soothe the mind and release the imagination if encountered at a still point in the middle of a strenuous day.

I feel that any art-loving visitor to London anxious to go to Burlington House even though there is no major exhibition there until next month, will be rather disappointed by the show that is currently on offer (until May 23). Entitled *Keynotes*, it is a retrospective of the work of some of the most important artists of the 20th century, including some of the most important of the 21st. It is a very good idea, but the execution is somewhat haphazard. In the Private Rooms some of the hands from the Academy's own collection. They include some fine works (Reynolds's self-portrait, a romantic *Chalked* by *Landscapes*, some *Sketches* by *drawings* and *Constable* cloud studies) and some banal and boring ones, but what would have made them much more interesting and worth the entrance money would have been some kind of anecdotal history of the Academy to bring a cohesion to the exhibition.

A model of the kind of thing I have in mind may be seen at the Heinz Gallery (until May 1), where the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, sort of a summary of its history and a sample of its achievements in A School of Rational Builders. Founded by William Morris and Philip Webb in 1877 to protect ancient buildings from the "restoration" of the Gothic Revival, the society is not just a pressure group but is active in preserving and passing on the traditional building skills necessary for the protection of our architectural heritage. As its present secretary, David Pearce, writes: "One of our young architects seek to learn of the mysteries of stone, wood, lead, brick and their right relationship in old buildings. Still more importantly they wish to be able to correct disturbances in that relationship with thorough, but gentle, care."

Paddy Kitchen

## Television

## Impartial ironies

At times like this the only programmes which seem to matter are those which are anything related to it in the up-to-the-minute current affairs slots. All the more credit to the BBC then, that two of its scheduled offerings last night should shed vivid light on the current excitement, and that a third should offer those who need it the chance of an engrossing aesthetic escape.

First, in *Bagley South* (BBC2), came the repeat of a gentle, little documentary about the Falklands dispute which Public Mail has been peering to have lying around. "Today the people of Port Stanley can relax in their beds," said a confident voice, pointing out that the number of soldiers in the island is 2,000. "Occasional noises apart, this antique film shamelessly demonstrated how little the dispute has been at a time when the world is so full of horrors."

Next, in *Argentina* (BBC2), was reported in this newspaper on Saturday. It is a historical drama, a German production, which has given Argentina the capacity to make nuclear bombs and Argentina, a thoroughly building a new reactor near the town of Mar del Plata. It is a historical drama, a German production, which has given Argentina the capacity to make nuclear bombs and Argentina, a thoroughly building a new reactor near the town of Mar del Plata.

And it is not best for its producer's apprehension, the programme would appear to have gone out last night, but it is a historical drama, a German production, which has given Argentina the capacity to make nuclear bombs and Argentina, a thoroughly building a new reactor near the town of Mar del Plata. It is a historical drama, a German production, which has given Argentina the capacity to make nuclear bombs and Argentina, a thoroughly building a new reactor near the town of Mar del Plata.

open, how much longer might it have developed unnoticed? And so with a sigh of relief, to bed, or rather a patch of damp grass. With Louis Mark's all-star line-up and production team it was obvious that this *La Ronda* (BBC1) would outclass its rivals, and in the event it did so with consummate ease. We have now seen a version which does full justice to the subtle brilliance of Schnitzler's play.

A play about sexual relationships, unsuitable for children, said a notice outside the Aldwych on appropriate nights. Indeed, a cruder, more tasteless production than the RSC's would be hard to imagine, and the excellent performance is not without its merits. The BBC version, which many children will have seen, was curiously tame. Kenneth Branagh, banished quickly and gruesomely to the wings, and kept the focus at all times where it belonged, on the play's extraordinary psychological subtext and flow. Each dialogue was a fragile bridge across chasms of irony, each exquisitely designed scene was made to carry echoes of its predecessor, with Carl Davis's delicate, haunting music (score by Mark To Kanawa) speeding the play on its circular journey.

Space permits only the briefest of many of praise. Anthony Andrews, as the delinquent, played an empty house, and was wickedly ironic and cruelly funny. Dorothy Tutin, as the woman, was a superb actress, and the play was a masterpiece of its kind. The production was a triumph, and the play was a masterpiece of its kind.

Michael Church

## Concerts

## Equivocal stresses

Philharmonia/Previn

Festival Hall

As a musical experience, the performance of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5* by the Philharmonia, conducted by Claudio Abbado, was a masterpiece of its kind. The conductor's interpretation was a triumph, and the play was a masterpiece of its kind.

In adding extra emphasis here through abrupt changes from soft to loud and back, or the underlining of rhythmic impulses, especially from a leading note, our attention was called to the music's vigour and immediacy. One looked for a corresponding vigour in the music's structure. The choral delivery of the "Ode to Joy" in the finale was undeniably stirring, not

least at the idea of a universal embrace with the entry at "Seid unschungen, Millionen", but the trumpets in the final movement were a little out of sync. As a first part the concert offered one of Haydn's "Paris" symphonies, No. 87 in A, which Haydn wanted engraved as the first of the set he composed for Paris. It is a masterpiece of its kind, and the play was a masterpiece of its kind.

His lively, neatly pointed performance conveyed much of the music's formal elegance, often more reminiscent of Mozart than Haydn. The above playing of Gordon Hunt in the lovely slow movement well deserved his solo call at the end. Except for this, there was a tendency to hurry the music along rather than to let it breathe.

Noel Goodwin

Soffel/Reimann

Wigmore Hall

It really takes German singers to perform German Lieder with real conviction. On Sunday afternoon, one of them, Doris Soffel, the young mezzo-soprano who is establishing an enviable reputation in Europe, gave a programme entirely of Schubert songs in a concert promoted by the Wigmore Hall to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Goethe's death. Her accompanist was Arbert Reimann, composer of the opera *Der Schatz*, and a devoted devotee of song.

In the ten songs with texts by Goethe which formed the first half of the recital, the subject-matter was surprisingly diversified. Each song is a self-contained microcosm in which always the singer, is the most important person. Miss Soffel managed the many changes of mood with persuasively dramatic staging. Her voice is an apt instrument for such music, its essential purity commanded by a technique which allows for plenty of variation in colour, and its immediacy, effected by intense suggestion.

In "Lied der Suleika" for example, where the poet addresses his own song, Miss Soffel cleverly achieved a perfect balance between the thinly veiled anxiety of a distant lover and the reassurance she gains from her verse. And the sheer power

of her voice, mostly held in a careful reserve, was unaltered by perfect judgement in the "Liebeslied", Op. 51, No. 5, where the singer's commitment to her lower combines sacrifice and nobility — qualities also apparent in the "Lied Lycens des Füllens", a homage to a beauty who is rather a peasant of Mozart than Haydn. The above playing of Gordon Hunt in the lovely slow movement well deserved his solo call at the end. Except for this, there was a tendency to hurry the music along rather than to let it breathe.

Stephen Pettitt

Dance  
Old wine bubbling in new bottles

## The Wedding at Hardanger

Opera House, Oslo

Many ballet companies lately, in their eagerness to acquire works by the more celebrated or publicized names of international choreography, seem to have forgotten that, without a substantial proportion of the repertoire particular to themselves, there is little reason for anyone outside their local audience to take an interest in them. The Norwegian Ballet has avoided that trap.

Naturally, it provides its public with a selection of standard works: not only the more or less obligatory *Balanchine*, *Petipa* and *Bournonville*, but *Cullberg*, *Tudor* and *Vainonen* are represented, besides Ashton and Cranko. Glen Tetley's name is in the list of course, but he actually created one work for Oslo, *Stremder* ("Beaches") to music by the Norwegian composer Arne Nordheim, and it has lately

acquired from Ballet Rambert his *Tempest*, also to Nordheim music, this now being exclusive to Oslo.

Thanks to that, the Norwegian Ballet is one of five or six European companies (London Contemporary Dance Theatre being another) which have been invited to New York next autumn for a series at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. The *Tempest* was Brenda Last's final acquisition for Oslo in her period as director and has proved the biggest hit so far with local audiences, and it is in the list of the recent staging of Nureyev's *Don Quixote*, for which Nadine Baylis did new designs, and by the first creation to be commissioned by Last's successor, Jens Graft — *The Wedding at Hardanger*.

Actually, this is at the same time both new and old. August Bournonville made a ballet of that name in 1853, for the Royal Danish Ballet, and it was popular enough to hold its place in the repertoire until 1917. An attempted revival in 1929, however, failed to find favour; it was dropped after three showings and never given again.

Flemming Flindt has applied to the restoration of this work the same process that he followed for *The Toreador* in Copenhagen four years ago. Keeping the original plot and, in this instance, pictorial source, he has had the score reworked and has made new choreography in the Bournonville manner.

A journey through Norway has filled Bournonville with enthusiasm for the country and its people. Wanting to express that in a new work, he took as his specific inspiration a painting that hangs in the National Gallery in Oslo, showing a wedding party being rowed across the fjord at Hardanger. The picture was a collaboration between two artists: Gude's landscape of craggy mountains surrounding the icy water is adapted to provide one scene of the ballet.

That is greeted with a burst of applause, surpassed when Tidemand's share of the painting is brought to life



Warmth and buoyancy: Ketil Gudim (right) with Sissel Westnes

by having the boat arrive, the bride in her wedding crown shyly proud in the stern, a fiddler playing away in the bows, and other members of the family crammed in between them. The first appeal of this ballet is frankly patriotic (many people wore national dress to the premiere), but it can be enjoyed on other grounds too.

Not, however, for its story: a naïve account of how young lovers win parental approval after the boy has saved his richer rival from drowning. Everyone ends up happily, even the rival, a wiser and soberer man after his escape, decides he really prefers his deserted former lover after all.

Act I tells the story, shows the famous picture and maintains interest along the way by some lively and often comic dances. Act II is given over entirely to the wedding celebration, one dance following another almost without pause. Many of them are based on folk customs or games; almost all draw on Norwegian folk dances for which Flindt had Reidar Warming as his adviser.

There is no shortage of animation in the choreography; a recurring motif, for instance, has the men clapping their hands underneath an outstretched leg, while jumping, and there is one competition dance with

the men trying to kick a red cap off the end of a pole held above their heads. The more classical solos are set in a style drawing on Bournonville's own directness, lightness and speed.

An unexpected problem in restoring the ballet arose with the music. Bournonville had used a score arranged by Pauli, who is best known today for *The Conservatoire* and his contributions to *Napoli*. The intention was to adapt and expand it, as had been done for *The Toreador*, in quality. Even more embarrassing, the supposed Norwegian folk-tunes he had worked from turned out to be mostly Danish or Swedish.

The only solution was to start from scratch, following the same principles, but making sure that the folk music which Egil Mohn Iversen arranged and orchestrated was all genuinely Norwegian. It is lively and attractive, with (to British ears) a hint of Scotland at times, especially in the more romantic passages, and attractively played under Zdenko Pichard's direction.

The outstanding individual performance in the first cast came from Indra Lorentzen, who makes the plight of the wealthy young man's cast-off lover genuinely touching, and warms only slowly when his affections turn her way

once more. László Mesáros provides a good foil for her by making the man seem at first altogether boorish, but revealing a more considerate nature once his dunking has shamed him. By the end, the spectator is glad that it is he who succeeds in a competition dance which is the most spectacular affirmation of his considerable dancing skill.

Two other leading couples are involved. Ketil Gudim gives the young hero a warmth and buoyancy, and dances buoyantly, Terje Solberg finds a shy manliness in the friend whose wedding is the occasion of the denouement. The former's sweet heart, and later his bride and dances buoyantly, Terje Solberg finds a shy manliness in the friend whose wedding is the occasion of the denouement.

My impression is, surprisingly, that the company's men (among whom Stefan Pettersson also scores a hit with his cameo role as a fussy sexton) are generally stronger than the women. The all-round standard, however, is never less than decently presentable, and the whole enterprise of *The Wedding at Hardanger* is a convincing demonstration of the benefit that can come from decanting old wine into new bottles.

John Percival

## Theatre

## Bring Me Sunshine, Bring Me Smiles

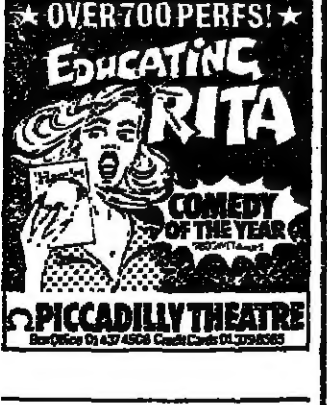
Shaw

Like some sort of dramatic focal point, large you to forget the structure and appreciate the feeling. C. P. Taylor's last play is a distinctly minor event in terms of world literature. It rambles in and out of ideas and personalities without any sense of compilation, or necessity. Yet in its trackless wandering it stumbles upon one warm spring of human emotion after another; each episode in the company has cause to be angry with lovers, family and friends for various failings and thoughtless acts and at each traumatic crossroad they find affection.

The nearest thing Taylor provides to a large you to forget the structure and appreciate the feeling. C. P. Taylor's last play is a distinctly minor event in terms of world literature. It rambles in and out of ideas and personalities without any sense of compilation, or necessity. Yet in its trackless wandering it stumbles upon one warm spring of human emotion after another; each episode in the company has cause to be angry with lovers, family and friends for various failings and thoughtless acts and at each traumatic crossroad they find affection.

John Blackmore's well-placed production from the National Theatre does not make the most of Mr Healy's receptive presence, and some of the scenes take place only in other people's memories, without quite reaching Ted. Yet their occurrence is never without charm. Adulterous affairs are embarked on, and finally the unemployed son finds his marriage; a pensioner sends the son into hospital and a whole enterprise of *The Wedding at Hardanger* is a convincing demonstration of the benefit that can come from decanting old wine into new bottles.

Ned Chaillet





# How to live up to Paris — and Napoleon's sister's bed

From Nancy Mitford's *Don't Tell Alfred*, published by Penguin.

From Nancy Mitford's "Don't Tell Alfred", published by Penguin.

practising his golf swing straight into the stately turf. "Sometimes I think that they are what keeps you from being entirely taken over by all this."

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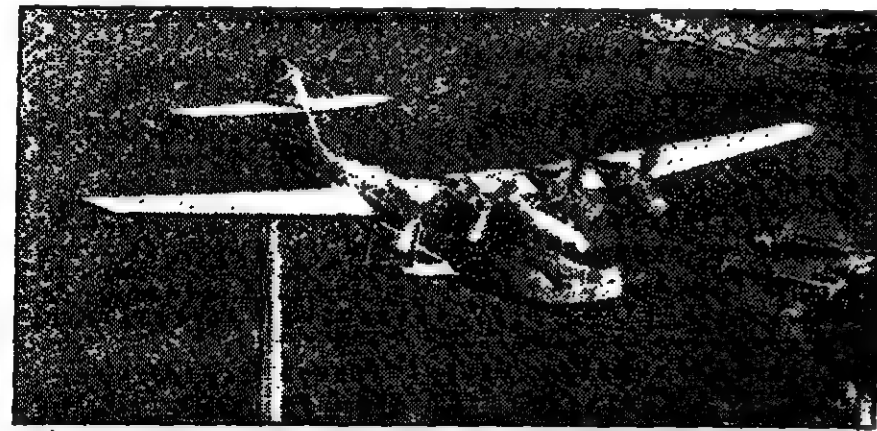
With the emphasis on American fashion and particularly on those turquoise and silver "Navajo" belts, it is surprising that more beauty houses have not looked for inspiration among the cornfields. Colorfast's American Spring (by Max Factor) has all the right names, like Huckleberry, Blue Ridge Mountains and Yellowstone for the duo eye shadow packs (£3.50).



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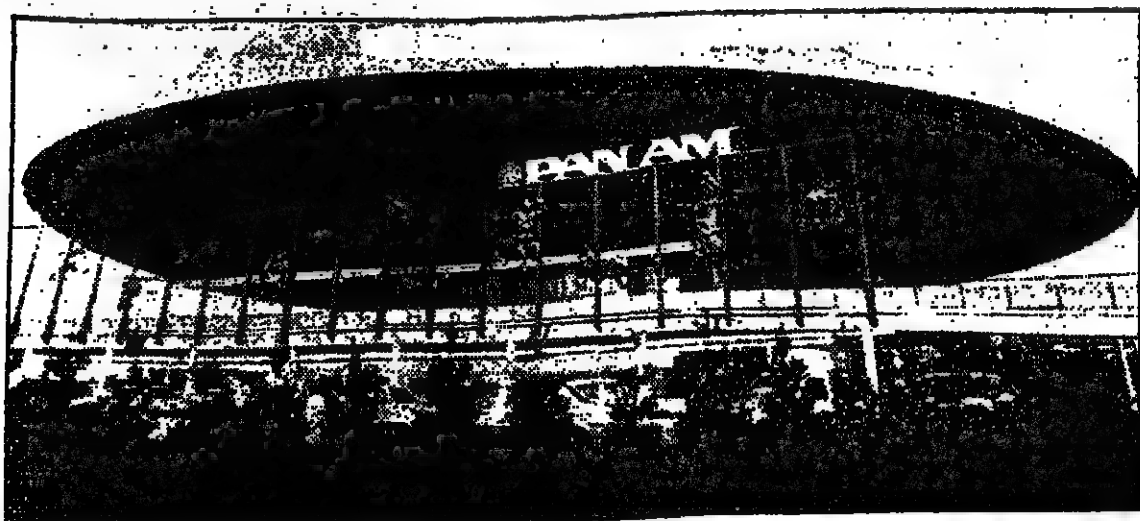
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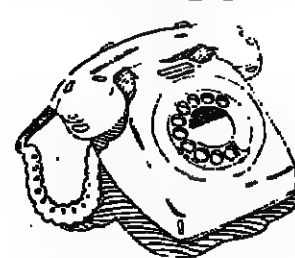
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington, D.C. 20520  
January 2, 1979

**SECRET**

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Improvements in the Quality and Relevance of Political Analysis

The Department believes that there are four areas where efforts can and should be made to improve the quality and relevance of political analysis over the coming months:



Secret memo, public anger: one of the documents left behind by the Americans in Iran, and, right, militant students demand the Shah's release for trial in November 1979.

# Revealed: America's dithering in the Shah's final days

by Robert Fisk

In late August of 1978, John D. Stempel, the acting political head at the American embassy in Tehran, welcomed ambassador William Sullivan back to Iran with a dog-eared assessment of the Shah's crumbling power. "While you were away," he wrote, "the place didn't really turn to crap, but it might have looked like it." Stempel could be forgiven his cynicism. All summer, unrest against the Shah's rule had continued throughout Iran. More than 300 people had died in a theatre fire in Abadan, a disaster whose only tangible result was an apparent though discreet split between the religious factions led by Ayatollah Khomeini — still in bitter exile in Paris — and Ayatollah Shariat Madari, down in the holy city of Qom. The Shah's Constitution Day speech had publicly set Iran on the road to liberalization but his shift towards Western-style democracy was being interpreted throughout Iran as a sign of weakness rather than incipient freedom. The Pahlavi dynasty and its kind of rule had lasted less than six months left to run.

The staff of the American embassy had, of course, no way of knowing this. In a confidential letter to the American consul in Isfahan in September 1978, Charles W. Nass, the Tehran embassy's Minister-Counsellor, restated with dogged determination the State Department's Iranian perspectives. "The US," he wrote, "has welcomed the Shah's liberalization policy which aims to develop over time a democratic political system; we have no doubts as to his sincerity about the process. The monarchy is a deeply important institution in Iran and the Shah is, in our view, the individual most suited to lead the Iranian people to a more democratic system."

The confidence was painfully misplaced but in the last months of the Shah's rule, American foreign policy was hopelessly divided over the future of its Middle Eastern ally. Its embassy officials in Tehran, desperately trying to understand the rise of a brutal theocracy in the place of an equally ruthless dictatorship, sent back to Washington their increasingly dramatic assessments of the upheavals and street

fighting that sometimes took place only a few blocks from their compound in Takht-e-Jamshid Street.

It is not usually vouchsafed to ordinary mortals to read such reports until long after the events have become history, but the thousands of hitherto highly secret documents purloined by Iranian students after they seized the embassy in November, 1979, therefore provide an unprecedented insight into the workings of American foreign policy at this critical moment.

Though published by Ayatollah Khomeini's regime for blatantly propagandistic purposes, the papers are a valuable source book for political historians, a brief glimpse through the mirror of modern history at a time when governments would prefer to keep their archives to remain firmly and legally closed.

The Iranian and the United States Governments were to date 1978 clearly beginning to distrust each other. President Carter's human rights campaign being cast against the Shah, and when Stempel met Darius Boyardor, the Iranian Prime Minister's Special Adviser in September 1978, he had to assure him that "the so-called 'American emphasis' on human rights had not, contrary to the opinion of many, advocated chaos instead of public order."

But Ambassador Sullivan was himself disenchanted by the Iranian authorities, astonished by their apparent inability to grasp the gravity of the violence in Tehran and other cities. Foreign Minister Ashraf, he told Washington, "showed little sensitivity to the deaths that had occurred in the clashes earlier that day (September 8) and insisted that no more than 10 had died. He later telephoned me

at home to change that figure to about 100".

On September 10, Sullivan had an audience with the Shah and found him "tired and unhappy," but considerably more spirited than he was a week ago. He persisted in saying that he sees the Soviet hand in all the demonstrations and disturbances that have taken place. At the same time, he says that past mistakes must be corrected... he is eager for some public expression of United States support for him, for his regime, and for his programme... he categorically eschewed any suggestion that he will abate or flee the current situation."

The American Embassy directed much of its energy towards cultivating Ayatollah Shariat Madari, whom it identified with the more moderate clergy. Khomeini, one American memorandum stated, was "committed to violence and destruction" while Shariat Madari "would doubtless welcome a chance to participate in an electoral process which might not leave (the religious moderates) wholly subservient to Khomeini."

There are countless references in the American documents to threats and harassment by the more organized Khomeini fanatics but precious little attempt to find out just who these "fanatics" were supposed to be. Ambassador Sullivan told Washington in September 1978 that the extremist coalition of fanatic Muslims led by Ayatollah Khomeini had "reportedly been penetrated and is assisted by a variety of terrorist, crypto-Communist, and other far left elements."

The Americans should have realized that the Shah's power was inevitably doomed when they learnt how his

Shia Islamic movement dominated by Ayatollah Khomeini is far better organized, enlightened and able to resist communism than its detractors would lead us to believe. It is rooted in the Iranian people more than any Western ideology, including communism.

Sullivan admitted that his embassy had been "labouring with the problem of understanding the breadth and depth of the renaissance Shia religious movement in Iran." The trouble, he said, had been "indicated or locked up in Savak prisons. 'Nevertheless, it has become obvious that Islam is deeply imbedded in the lives of the vast majority of the Iranian people...'

It was a painful lesson, but in the aftermath of the revolution the Americans did their best to come to terms with the new regime. Bruce Laingen, the charge d'affaires, who was also to become a hostage within a year, attempted to secure the friendship of Amir Abbas Entezam, the deputy Prime Minister and later the Iranian Ambassador to Scandinavia. Awarded the codename SD Plot 1, Entezam appears in the embassy archives holding secret discussions for arms supplies with American officials who appear from the documents to be CIA operatives.

Laingen and his colleagues, however, could not maintain relations with Iran once the Shah arrived in New York for medical treatment. The embassy was invaded in November 1979, and the archives came to a halt, leaving for the Iranians not only a wealth of information to feed their conspiratorial theory of history but a few lessons that they might have heeded had they read the papers more carefully.

They might, for example, have paused a little longer when they came across a memorandum prepared for the director of the defence security assistance agency in Washington just before the Shah's fall. "Iraq remains the greatest threat to Iran," it said. "Any attack by Iraq would likely be limited, with the oil fields as the target. A decision to mount such an attack would require a weak Iranian military force and some plausible reason to present to world opinion..."

## A better way to give MPs the chop

It does nothing for the stature of Parliament or for the greater public understanding of our essential, yet defective, democracy when the House of Commons embarks on one of its not infrequent grisly charades. It will do so today when it will debate a motion to guillotine the controversial Employment Bill.

Labour MPs, we are authoritatively informed, are incensed by the Government's decision to cut short argument on the Bill. Mr Michael Foot has already summoned up his righteous indignation to denounce the move as "a great error" which he promises will be bitterly opposed.

So it will be. Superficially, the silly ritual never varies overmuch on these occasions. Only the participating lead characters change, according to who holds office at the time. The major parties unashamedly use each other's leftover texts.

Labour is guaranteed to kick up a shindig. It will be looking anxiously over its collective shoulder at the trade unions, seeking to demonstrate to them that its commitment against Mr Norman Tebbit's measure is heartfelt. Mr John Silkin, the shadow Leader of the House, and Mr Eric Varley, the party's chief employment spokesman, are likely to share the job of insisting that such an iniquitous piece of legislation cannot be curtailed in this cavalier fashion.

The Government will be accused of unspeakably haste by refusing to allow the most exacting line-by-line scrutiny of such far-reaching proposals, however time-consuming. The interests of millions of working people and their families are at stake, we shall be assured.

The Government, almost certainly in the shape of Mr John Biffen, the new Leader of the House, and the abominated Mr Tebbit himself, will point out that after some 22 sittings in committee and 52 hours of debate, MPs have only managed to get through four clauses. Therefore, they will declare, there must be a tightly-drawn timetable, both for the remaining committee sessions and for when the Bill returns to the chamber for the whole House to consider. Labour's deliberative go-slow tactics, they will claim, leave them no choice.

They can be expected to trot out, justifiably enough, the many times when the last Labour Government resorted to the guillotine to ensure that its legislation reached the Statute Book. They will doubtless omit to mention the vehement disapproval for such moves advanced by the then Conservative Opposition.

When the grousing and the shouting is over, the party whips will usher everyone through the voting lobbies. Labour MPs, inevitably beset by the numbers game, will privately sigh with relief to know they will no longer risk those wearisome, turgid and mostly futile unrestricted debates long into the night. Another round in the phoney war will be over.

It is though, an indictment of the outdated and introverted parliamentary system that these antics are permitted to continue. MPs in opposition, regardless of political colour, still pretend that time is a potent weapon. It rarely is. But they will concede nothing. A range of vested interests underpin their obduracy.

When Labour was in power, I wrote to Michael Foot, the then Leader of the House, on behalf of a group of junior ministers — the poor bloody infantry of the Government. We had been stirred up partly by the perpetual strain of those long days and nights, partly by



Mr Tebbit: he will get his guillotine

The idea, or something like it, could still be resurrected. Mr Biffen might at least float the prospect of all-party talks on Parliamentary procedure which are long overdue. He could be assured of Social Democratic Party support for an attack on the existing follies and inadequacies.

Any new move would, of course, be countered by the same old gang of traditionalists, ideobound proceduralists and procrastinators, serving up the same old reasons for protecting the status quo. They would probably joined not for the first time, by the House of Lords abolitionist all-or-nothing brigade.

If Mr Biffen is too new and too nervous to face up to that, then I trust that an SDP-Liberal Alliance government would be ready to put it to the test.

Meanwhile, the idle bickering will go on. Mr Tebbit, his votes stacked up, will get his guillotine. I have no wish to help his unfortunate and untimely Bill along. It is at best a smokescreen for the Government and irrelevant to the nation's real industrial relations, which require far more careful and constructive reform than is on offer. I cannot, however, back the political fraud and gamesmanship which outright hostility to the guillotine would entail. I am sure that they will all get along without me very well. Who knows, if enough others follow suit, someone just might get the message.

John Grant

The author is Social Democratic MP for Islington Central and the party's employment spokesman.



## Who's to say who's who in the zoo?

What's Greek for a Driver's farewell?

There will be more than usual good cheer today in some of the country's top restaurants. Christopher Driver, the scourge of the kitchens, is leaving the Good Food Guide. He goes with a glowing testimonial from Peter Goldman, director of the Consumers' Association, which publishes the book.

He says Driver made a distinctive and dedicated contribution, carrying on the tradition of literary merit and thorough research established by the Guide's founder, Raymond Postgate.

Driver, whose predilection for acidulated comment upset whole brigades of chefs and restaurateurs, had much in common with Postgate. When they first lunched together, Driver won his predecessor's approbation by spotting an error in the addition of the bill. Thereafter, both being classical scholars, they exchanged notes about their meals in Latin and Greek.

Driver says that after producing 12 editions he has had enough of the feast. The Guide's followers will hope that his successor maintains his campaigns against Muzak and smoking in dining rooms, and that he will inherit that way with words which enabled Driver, for instance, to describe Wolfe's boiler-suited waitresses as "ewe-lambs in Wolfe's clothing".

Most people can tell the difference between an elephant and a kangaroo. Quite a few could even cope with addax, oryx, dorcas and red-fronted gazelle. But where *Hemionus* and *Chrysops* are concerned — they are, in fact, two genera of insects whose larvae eat aphids — it takes the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to sort them out.

The commission, founded in 1895, is in peril. After decades of toiling unsung and barely seen in the shadow of the dinosaur at the Natural History Museum in London, the learned body that judges that most basic of issues, the naming of species, among the 1,100,000 living and fossil animal species, may itself face extinction next year.

The trust that administers the commission has only one regular source of income: the sales of its bulletin and the code it publishes for the guidance of taxonomists. Two grants which have kept it

going during recent years have now expired and it must find £50,000 to £70,000 a year. Its loss would be a tragedy.

The commission describes itself as "the only international tribunal with the authority to regulate nomenclature problems that obscure communications between zoologists all over the world." This means not only mediating in taxonomic disputes concerning known species but also picking an authoritative way through the inevitable confusion arising from the discovery of about 15,000 new species and 2,000 new genera annually.

"The prospect that the commission may cease operations and the confusion in nomenclature that would inevitably follow should be of concern to all zoologists in medical and veterinary work, agriculture, horticulture, ecology, conservation, palaeontology and taxonomy," the February issue of *The Biologist* gave warning.

The commission comprises 26 zoologists and paleontologists from 17 countries, reporting to the Division of Zoology of the International Union of Biological Sciences at its triennial assembly. In 1905 it formulated its first code of rules for nomenclature; this year, ironically, is to see the publication of its third edition.

As there are more species of beetle alone — about 300,000 — than of flowering plants, it is obvious that no code could hope to accommodate every new animal species; cases where the code and the naming zoologist cannot cope are sufficiently plentiful to have filled 38 volumes of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*.

Those opinions are often of far more than academic interest; identifying the tropical freshwater fluke that spreads schistosomiasis (or should it be bilharzia?) for example, or the organism that causes malaria, can be a matter of life or death, as, less dramatically,

can be a furious controversy over what to call a species of grain weevil or the bee that is the main pollinator of alfalfa.

Plants and animals, of course, are separate kingdoms: small wonder, then, that different taxonomic philosophies should reign. Compared to zoologists, botanists are a happy-go-lucky lot, with a far less rigid code that anyone can interpret as he wishes, and the first validly published name takes precedence.

Zoologists, inevitably, see this system as a mildly disreputable free-for-all, while botanists speak of "fixing" their colleagues' attempts at "flexible" taxonomy.

At the root of both disciplines, however, is a similar paradox: the thanklessness, as one biologist, whose own name is hardly a household word, put it recently, of work "so fundamental it doesn't get noticed".

Tony Samstag

## THE TIMES DIARY

I hope there is no ominous portent in an exchange that Commander Anthony Bateman recalls with some officers of the Armada Republica Argentina at a reception at Admiralty House, Simonstown in the 1960s.

Seeking a conversational gambit, Bateman inquired why none of them, not even the admirals, wore medal ribbons.

The reply, which effectively put an end to the conversation, was: "We have no medals because we fight no wars. You British wear ribbons because you are always fighting." Photographs of the junta show the admirals and generals still in undecorated uniform, so we must hope they have not now developed a determined lust for battle honours.

The country, urgently needs repairs which Blant thinks likely to cost more than £70,000. They are being neglected because the local congregation is already struggling to raise a similar sum for repairs to the church itself.

Mount Everest, the fully booked high rise facility in the Himalayas, is soon to be the venue for international summit discussions. While Chris Bonington's six-man team are attempting the previously unclimbed east and north-east ridge, a strong Russian team is climbing the south-west face from Nepal, and 16 Americans are tackling the north face.

Carrot cure

The peculiar cookery of the citizens of Salvador, the oldest city and former capital of Brazil, may play an important part in testing the theory that carrots can inhibit cancer.

The Salvadorians cook their *vatapa*, *xinxin* and *moqueca* (fish, chicken and seafood) in red palm

oil, which contains from five to ten times as much carotene as carrots. Their use of the oil, inherited from West African slaves, gives Salvadorians the highest carotene intake in the world. Carotene is a principal source of vitamin A, which Sir Richard Doll has estimated could reduce cancer mortality by a third.

Now a Brazilian epidemiologist working in the department of community medicine in Oxford, Dr Alex Kalache, is to compare the incidence of cancer among Salvadorians with that in nearby Recife, where red palm oil is not a popular cooking medium. If he finds the marked difference he hopes for, red palm oil and carrots will outstrip even vitamin A pills and polar bear liver (the richest source of pre-formed vitamin A) as the health food of the future.

Skates on now

Chris Galer has just sent a birthday card to the drama producer of BBC Radio Wales in Cardiff, not for his birthday but to mark the first full year the manuscript of Galer's radio play *Card* has spent with him. The card reads: Dear Manuscript, Congratulations on reaching one year of age. Where are you? Why don't I hear from you? Are you lost? Yours ever, Dad."

Thin Ice was well liked when originally submitted and read by the producer and a script editor. Some "final" revisions suggested were quickly carried out. Since then there has been no word save a message last December that the revised version had still to be read. Letters have gone unans-



Fix the crisis continues, what about an engagement with BSA?

Don't start casting the clouts just yet though. Mackins warns that until the middle of May we may have to endure a cold wind, cloudbursts, severe thunderstorms and possibly even snow. This he blames on the second eruption of Mount St. Helens, which he claims, was the cause of the unprecedented April blizzards in the eastern states of America.

When the volcano last exploded, in May 1980, one of the things blown up with it was Mackins's confident prediction of a scorching summer that year. Expect the fine spell to commence, volcanoes permitting, about May 22.

Evolving doors

To commemorate the centenary of Charles Darwin's death, his great-grandson, Richard Darwin Keynes, professor of physiology at Cambridge, yesterday unveiled a plaque renaming University College London's biological sciences building the Darwin Building.

University College claims to be the only academic institution in the world which occupies space where Darwin once made his home — other sites having since been demolished or changed to non-academic uses.

Brian Cook bought a block of Cadbury's Dairy Milk whose wrapper carried a voucher with the instruction: "Take this coupon to your retailer, most of whom will exchange it for a free 40g bar."

This leaves him wondering uneasily which part of his retailer is most likely to refuse.

PHS

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## THE SEARCH FOR COMPROMISE

Mr Pym's statement in the Commons yesterday on the Falklands crisis was as much a search for compromise as it was a statement of principle. It was a search for compromise in the midst of such critical negotiations. He did little more than reassert British objectives, which are to get Argentine forces withdrawn from the Falklands and British administration restored before negotiations can resume on the long-term future of the islands. Meanwhile, every effort is being made to build up military, economic and diplomatic pressure on Argentina. The fact that Norway has now joined Europe in imposing sanctions is to be welcomed.

There remains, however, a wide gap between the basic objectives of British objectives and the complexities of achieving them. Britain has sent the fleet to defend two principles. One is the principle that territorial claims should not be pursued by force, and that when they are the gains should not be allowed to stand. In other words, aggression should not pay. The other is the principle of self-determination: the Falklanders, like other peoples, should have a right to decide under which government they wish to live. This right has been violated by Argentina and should be restored. Both these principles have been endorsed by the United Nations, and the first has been specifically reinforced in the case of the Falkland Islands by Resolution 502.

Hence there can be no negotiation on the basic British demand that the Argentine forces withdraw from the islands and the Falklanders be given a chance to express their wishes. But that does not mean that negotiation is impossible, or even that Argentine interests cannot be accommodated. The situation before the invasion included British willingness to negotiate over the sovereignty of the Falklands. Among the ideas put forward was that Argentina would be given nominal sovereignty and would then lease back the islands to Britain for a fixed period, perhaps twenty-five years. To restore the status quo ante is, therefore, not to deny Argentina any chance of achieving its aims. It is to the contrary to restore British willingness to negotiate on just this point, but certainly not under duress, or the threat of it.

Moreover if negotiations began in peace they could take place against a background which would be somewhat more favourable to Argentina, for there is one aspect of the status quo ante which cannot be restored, and that is the comfortable assumption of the islanders before the invasion that they could remain indefinitely under solely British protection while building up all the benefits of close links with the Argentine mainland. Given the opportunity to express their views they might now be more amenable to compromise arrangements than they were in the past. They cannot be greatly attracted by the prospect of

living on a heavily fortified island at the end of long and vulnerable lines of supply from the United Kingdom. In other words, defending the principle of self-determination may not be wholly incompatible with reaching some form of compromise which would save Argentina's pride while restoring British administration. For instance, it would not be entirely wrong if the freeholder were permitted to fly a flag along with the leaseholder, provided that entitlement was achieved by negotiation and agreement, rather than by aggression.

What remains wholly unacceptable, however, is that the Falklanders should simply be taken over by a government which not only has no legal right to be there but also happens to be a singularly brutal military dictatorship which cannot in any way be trusted to respect their individual rights, as it is already showing by its attempts to "Argentinise" the island. To permit this would be to forfeit any claim to be concerned with human rights or basic justice.

However, if it is not too difficult to envisage just solutions that ought to be acceptable to both sides it remains formidably difficult to chart a course for reaching such solutions in time to avoid a military clash.

That would prejudice not only a peaceful future for the Falklanders but also what ought to be another important British objective: the restoration of good relations with Argentina.

## FROM FUNNY MONEY TO A CASH CRISIS

The Treasury Committee of the House of Commons is temperate in its criticism of the Government but telling in its arguments in its latest report on public spending plans. Its call for much greater information from the Government on the volume and output of public spending in the years ahead should be endorsed by the House when the Government's expenditure plans are discussed on Wednesday.

This year has seen the first attempt by the Government to carry out its spending planning for several years ahead in cash terms. In the past, plans were drawn up in "volume" terms, which the committee concedes did not give a true picture of what most ordinary citizens would think mattered in assessing spending. The measure assessed what was used up as inputs not what was produced as output; and it did not give sufficient warning of changes in costs.

It is this which led to a general acceptance that the old system of controlling public spending had to go; and as a blunt instrument aimed at underlining the way things have changed, planning in cash has many advantages. But there are problems, to which the Government will have to deal with if it is to make its plans for future

years credible. In an ideal world without inflation there would be no need to worry about whether spending was planned in cash terms or in "real" terms, for the two would be identical. It is inflation which makes the distinction important. It is only by having a clear view of what is going to happen to inflation and what the Government can expect to get for its money in future years that the public can assess Government spending plans.

Treasury officials fear that spending out this information would strengthen the hand of spending departments. The reason for that fear shows the danger of the way in which the latest spending plans have been drawn up. For the assumption about inflation on which the old volume plans were originally converted into cash was more optimistic than the Government is now forecasting. Unless public sector costs are held below those of the rest of the economy, that will present ministers this summer with a choice between cuts in programmes or increases in cash amounts available for next year and beyond.

We thus risk seeing a repeat of the events of last summer, when the Cabinet was deeply split over a call for spending "cuts" which

## Crime prevention programme

From the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders

Sir, Crime and violence are rightly issues of great concern. But the hue and cry of recent weeks has neither changed the facts about crime nor told us anything new at all about how to deal with it.

Rates of recorded crime are rising in all Western industrialised countries. We know as well that the USSR and even China are facing similar problems. We know that crime is a complex problem with its roots deep in society. We know the breakdown of urban communities and the decaying of thousands of people into massive, bleak housing estates have played their part.

More recently unemployment has to have had its effect, especially on the young and on children growing up in families where the parents have no work and no hope of work. The rapid advance of new technology, desirable though it may be, is likely increasingly to add to pressures of the social upheaval we are experiencing. The growth of more technological policing has created a certain gap between the police and the people.

Thus those who claim these problems will be solved by capital punishment, corporal punishment, longer and harder prison sentences and more prison buildings are deluding themselves and misleading the public. We have more convicted prisoners per head of population than any other European country. Our prisons are filled to bursting, though not with violent offenders or even burglars. Over half of those imprisoned on any one day are locked up for non-violent offences other than burglary.

As Lord Lane said in the House of Lords on March 24 "... neither police nor courts nor prison can solve the problem of this rising crime rate. By the time that the criminal falls into the hands of the police, and more particularly by the time that he reaches court, it is too late."

Instead of allowing the debate to be dominated by calls for harsher penalties and longer sentences the Government should initiate a programme of crime prevention. They should look in detail at what has been achieved so far, they should build on the work already done by various organisations, including the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, in reducing vandalism, crime and fear of crime on poorly designed and neglected housing estates.

The present position should be changed so that the Home Office is enabled directly to fund a wide range of crime prevention schemes. Finally, the Home Secretary should look again at his decision to impose a standstill on new funding for community run schemes that keep offenders out of further trouble.

Yours faithfully,  
A. M. G. CHRISTOPHER,  
Chairman,  
CHARLES IRVING,  
Vice-Chairman,  
NACRO,  
169 Clapham Road, SW9.

ended up with spending in the current year £5,000m higher than planned at the time of the 1981 Budget. It is always tempting to assume that public sector costs will be held down; but if that is not achieved, the Government finds that it has allowed yet more time to slip by without reductions in its current spending. If it then tries to bring the total down it can only do so by reducing its investment, something which is bad for us all. The Government says that companies have to plan in cash and it must do the same. But companies also take a view about what activities they expect to be carrying on in the years ahead. If all prices were to double unexpectedly, it would be a very foolish company which halved its operations to hold to cash targets.

The danger of the Government's approach is that by trying to put all the emphasis on cash planning in the public sector it may destroy the credibility of its planning. The sooner the Chancellor can show the House that he has worked through the consequences of his spending plans and that the Government is prepared to take the action needed to meet them the greater will be the credibility of his strategy as a whole.

Low and the Victorian state election suggest that Mr Fraser is not the winner your article elsewhere suggests him to be. Many Australian Liberals have long believed that he never was.

Yours sincerely,  
GEORGE BRANDIS,  
DON MARKWELL,  
247 Woodstock Road,  
Oxford,  
April 10.

Future of local radio

From Mr J. F. Wilkinson

Sir, Let me state quite categorically that there is no truth at all in the rumours referred to by Mr Charles Morris, MP, and Mr Frank White, MP, in their letter printed on April 12, which suggested that the output of BBC local radio stations is to be reduced. Further to this there is no intention to divert their resources or diminish their editorial position in any way. The intention of the Board of Governors is to ensure that the network production centres, the eight regional television stations and the present and future local radio stations in England are supported by a management structure which will properly safeguard their development.

It is with this in mind that they have asked me to undertake a review of the present arrangements. I have already started consultations with staff but it will be some time before these are completed. The chairman of all regional and local radio advisory councils have been informed of this review and will be further discussions with them at the appropriate time and before final decisions are taken. There is no truth at all in the statement that local advisory councils will be disbanded in favour of one overall council.

The BBC welcomes the recognition of the valuable contribution which the BBC's Local Radio service have made to the community life in this country.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WILKINSON,  
Director, Public Affairs,  
BBC,  
Broadcasting House, W1.

Worker democracy

From Mr W. J. Allenby

Sir, Professor R. Beresford Dew's letter (April 15) on employee democracy contains a major error: what employees of German companies have the right to elect by secret ballot is half the supervisory board, not the board of management. In the case of most companies the supervisory board meets once or twice a year.

It is also wrong to believe that all British companies lag behind their German counterparts in employee information and participation. I can assure your readers that we follow exactly the same procedures in our British and German companies and we are by no means unique in this respect.

More fundamentally, Professor Dew appears to over-estimate the extent to which a procedural framework, imposed by law, can change the deep-seated attitudes bred by generations of distrust and prejudice.

Finally, I would like to remind Professor Dew that what he is asking for, and no more, is contained in the fourth alternative of the latest EEC draft fifth directive which shows signs of being adopted in the near future. Perhaps Professor Dew can use his influence to help to ensure that some relatively minor amendments are carried before this happens.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN ALLENBY,  
Joint Managing Director,  
Lansing Bagnall Ltd,  
Kingsclere Road,  
Basingstoke,  
April 15.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UN influence in a Falklands solution

From Mr Donald Hall

Sir, As one of those remaining who worked on the foundations of the United Nations, may I urge agreement to a peace force if such is proposed. Too often we have by our indifference undermined the influence of a body created for the very purpose of resolving such crises as the present one.

The United Nations through the Security Council, as well as the EEC and members of the Commonwealth, have recognised the justice of our cause, and the absolute need to assert that aggression must not pay. The United States' good offices, somewhat ungraciously regarded, have so far preserved peace.

But while acknowledging all this we must be honest with ourselves, we, no less than the Argentines, are fearful of losing face — even, it seems, prepared to let loose a war as futile as any in history, and of which no bounds can be foreseen, for the sake of it.

United Nations peace force enables both parties to withdraw from the lethal position in which they have placed themselves, and possibly the rest of the world. Our assertion of sovereignty could be in no way prejudiced, indeed, with the support we have already received, it would tend to be confirmed. At all events it would give pause while the future of the Falklands is calmly deliberated. Moreover, it would reduce the sovereignty of the United Nations which is so important for the peace of the world.

We might also remember, in connection with our not very shining sovereignty over those islands, that the sovereignty of nations is the prime cause of war and consequent misery: it has nothing to do with patriotism, which is love of one's country.

Yours faithfully,  
DONALD HALL,  
Wilcote Grange,  
Finstock,  
Oxfordshire,  
April 17.

From Professor B. A. Wortley, O.C.

Sir, Mr William Douglas-Home made a most important point, in your issue of April 8, with regard to the protection of civilians from military operations.

The Argentine and the United Kingdom have accepted the Geneva Convention "Red Cross" Convention of 1949, article 4 of which defines protected persons as "those who, at a given moment and in any manner whatsoever, find themselves, in the case of a conflict, under the power of the hands of a party to the conflict or occupying power of which they are not nationals". By article 14 these Powers may "establish in their own territory and, if the need arises in occupied areas... to protect the safety of the wounded, sick, infirm and aged persons, children and maternity cases, ministers of all religions, medical personnel etc."

The 1977 Protocol to the Red Cross Convention is not yet binding as a treaty on the UK as the Argentine, but it does represent a long tradition of international law based on Christian charity when, in article 57(1), it declares: "In the conduct

of military operations, constant care shall be taken to spare the civilian population, civilians and civilian objects".

Those conducting military operations would be lawfully following this tradition, whether acting unilaterally, or by agreement, if they granted immediate safe conduct and provided safety zones for all civilians who wished to leave areas where battle is likely to occur. Such exercise of lawful military discretion would help and not hinder any ultimate legal settlement, and might save many innocent lives.

Yours faithfully,  
B. A. WORTLEY,  
24 Gravel Lane,  
Wimborne,  
Dorset,  
April 14.

From the General Secretary of the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association

Sir, The article by John Chartres about the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (April 8) was both informative and timely. No many people know of the existence of this Government-owned fleet, manned by Merchant Navy personnel, whose purpose is to support the Royal Navy in whatever task is assigned to it.

The present emergency has shown that the RFA has already been reduced below a level at which it can fully support the Royal Navy, and various merchant ships have had to be pressed into service with, in some cases, the possibility that foreign operators will move into the commercial slots which had been nurtured by the owners and the crews of these ships.

The British-registered merchant fleet is declining and in the future Britain may be faced with the humiliating experience of using ships whose loyalties are to a foreign power, to support the Royal Navy.

Even bareboat chartering of such ships with a view to manning them with British crews may be denied us. The number of recruits in the Merchant Navy has declined dramatically in the last two years — to such an extent that on present predictions there will not be enough qualified seafarers in only a few years' time to man the decimated fleet of merchant vessels.

Yours faithfully,  
ERIC NEVIN,  
General Secretary,  
The Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association,  
Oceanair House,  
750-760, High Road,  
Leightonstone, E11,  
April 14.

From Dr Alan Sanderson

Sir, The sight of the venerable-looking Mr Anderson telling the world the private conversation of President Reagan and Mr Haig (report, April 17) troubled me deeply. What is the real distinction between publishing stolen tapes and receiving stolen goods?

Journalists today are in a position of influence equal to that of the Church in the Middle Ages. Newspapers and television are the modern Bibles. People model their behaviour on what they read and see.

Do journalists realise their awesome responsibility?

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN SANDERSON,  
2 Carolina Close, W2,  
April 17.

Doctor at large

From Dr A.C. Chamier

Sir, It seems to me that discussion about the length of time taken for postgraduate students to complete their PhD theses is a little premature. In present circumstances, my experiences lead me to believe that it is unprofitable to embark upon postgraduate studies at all. My husband gave up a career in diplomacy in 1971 so that I could remain, once our children were at school, for a career in scientific research, preferably as a university don.

I spent two years studying for the relevant A levels; three years to obtain a first-class degree in Botany; and the strength of a personal grant from a research council, three years to complete a PhD thesis on a physiological aspect of biodegradation — an area of research within the scope of my equipment to play some computerized games of which some, at least, seem to have educational value.

Even if the teachers quoted are right, one presumes the sibling gap can never be less than nine months.

Yours faithfully,  
SMEON G. BULL,  
Oakwood,  
37 Island Road,  
Surrey,  
Canterbury,  
Kent,  
April 14.

Mental Health Bill

From Lady Bingley and others

Sir, In 1975, following the MIND publication, *A Human Comedy* if you wrote: "The report clearly is not a failure, nor is its case that the Mental Health Act, 1959, shows too many traces of paternalism of an earlier day". The Mental Health (Amendment) Bill marks the end of an important era in MIND's history — we are delighted to see that some two-thirds of its recommendations are based on our original proposals. At the same time, we have brought a series of successful cases before the European Court of Human Rights, which have resulted in substantial amendments to the Bill.

We agree with your leader (March 31) that the Bill will remove much of the paternalism in the existing statute, but do not agree with some of its conclusions. The leader would ap-

### Question: mark over orchestral visit

From Mr John McCabe

Sir, The arguments about the proposed visit to London in 1983 of the Los Angeles Philharmonic to give us a Brahms cycle have, so far as I know, not mentioned the complete absence of American music from the programmes, a lack which is implicit in the basic scheme.

Ordinary for an American orchestra to consider giving a series of concerts in Britain without enabling us to hear a note of American music. There are, after all, plenty of first-rate pieces which have already made a fine impression over here and which deserve more frequent exposure as part of the symphonic repertoire, especially in performances by such major artists, who could present the works to their best advantage.

To miss such an opportunity would be to deprive audiences of an excellent chance of widening their musical horizons, and of depriving American composers of increased access to audiences which have already (though perhaps too infrequently) been able to enjoy their works.

It would also continue the current pernicious process of reducing the standard repertoire to an ever-diminishing number of works which, through over-exposure, might be in grave danger of losing their essential meaning.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MCCABE,  
49 Southall Avenue,  
Southall,  
Middlesex,  
April 15.

From Miss Susan M. Alcock

Sir, Bryan Appleyard's article (April 12) and Robert Spencer's letter (April 14) oblige me to make an attempt to spell out the ISM view of Mr Jasper Parrott's present campaign.

First of all let us have the situation in perspective. Why is Mr Parrott creating such a fuss about the Los Angeles Philharmonic and not Mr Andreas Schiff? Mr Appleyard failed to report the main point which I made to him last week — namely that Jasper Parrott has a strong commercial interest in this matter.

Apparently we, the Visiting Orchestras' Consultative Association and others are accused of depriving the British public of the right to hear distinguished foreign artists. It is ridiculous. We all want to enjoy the best from abroad. That is why a generous scheme has evolved over at least 40 years to allow foreign artists to come here with the minimum of restriction. Other countries also operate controls. It is ridiculous to regard the rules, of which Mr Parrott is so impatient, as an affront to freedom. To preserve freedom some controls have to exist to prevent distortion and unfairness.

Are all these careful guidelines to be thrown over to suit Mr Parrott's commercial interest?

Yours sincerely,  
SUSAN M. ALCOCK, General Secretary,  
Incorporated Society of Musicians,  
10 Stratford Place, W1,  
April 15.

Tibetan deforestation

From Mr Paul Ingram

Sir, I read with interest an item (April 7) which dealt with the widespread deforestation projects on the Indian side of the Himalayas, with consequent human suffering and severe ecological damage to the areas involved.

Such deforestation is not, alas, confined to one side of the Himalayas. The Chinese too are rapidly deforesting huge areas of the old Tibet (the provinces of Kham and Amdo) which they annexed in their invasion of 1950. This was observed by the second Betanong delegation sent by the Dalai Lama's government in exile at the invitation of the Chinese government. (See *Tibet News Review*, Winter 1980/81). In these areas some 65,000 people are employed in intensive lumbering. Whole hillsides have been devastated and day and night rivers are full of logs being sent down river to China.

In these regions there was once a flourishing wildlife, bears, wolves, wild geese and ducks, black-necked cranes and fish-eagles, together with great herds of deer and gazelles. They have all been practically exterminated.

Man's inhumanity to man and to nature seems without limit.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL INGRAM, Secretary,  
Scientific Buddhist Association,  
30 Hollingbourne Gardens, W13.

Surgeon's hungry allies

From Sir Anthony Alment

Sir, At the 1951 Festival of Britain Exhibition there was shown a Temperate Prognosticator (letter, April 17) from the 1851 Great Exhibition. Each of 12 leeches (I think that was the number) ascended a separate glass tube from the wet sandy bottom of a large glass jar.

The impact of 12 leeches arriving simultaneously at the top caused a small bell to ring, presumably audible in the cab before the storm. Was it a joke, I wonder?

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY ALMENT,  
Winston House,  
Northampton,  
April 17.

Ominous developments

From Mr Richard Wilson

Sir, In spite of his pretended innocence (feature, April 14) Mr Heseltine knows that it is easier for district councils to tempt developers to build middle class housing on green fields with bricks and concrete than to settle down to deal with the problem of redeveloping our cities and derelict land.

He should legislate to limit the massive powers local authorities now have to choose the easy option. But would the regenerated cities vote Tory, and would his Tory district councillors still love him?

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD WILSON,  
32 Fentiman Road, SW8,  
April 14.

Computer generation

From Jimmie G. Bull

Sir, Much of the content of Henry Fairlie's report (April 14) will come as no surprise to many parents in this country who are now confronted with an older problem in a new form.

Most precisely, mention of the first television generation recalls the domestic discord that often arose when children wished to view one programme on television whilst their parents wished to view another. For those who did not solve the problem by purchasing additional television sets a new dimension has been added — the home computer.

The sibling rivalry to which Henry Fairlie refers is now seen in the form of competition between the children who wish to use the television set to display interminable programmes that they have devised for the home computer — often, ostensibly, in connection with their school work — and the younger generation who wish to use the same equipment to play computerized games of which some, at least, seem to have educational value.

Even if the teachers quoted are right, one presumes the sibling gap can never be less than nine months.

Yours faithfully,  
SMEON G. BULL,  
Oakwood,  
37 Island Road,  
Surrey,  
Canterbury,  
Kent,  
April 14.







theory, and led to the publication of *Modern English* in 1962 and *History of English* in 1967. The latter, an inspired work of deep learning, was hailed as a masterpiece of scholarship. It was the first of a series of books on the history of the English language, which have since become essential reading for students of the subject.

She was active in the study of her own language and was a member of the Linguistic Society of London. She was also a member of the Society for the Study of English Language and the Society for the Study of English Literature.

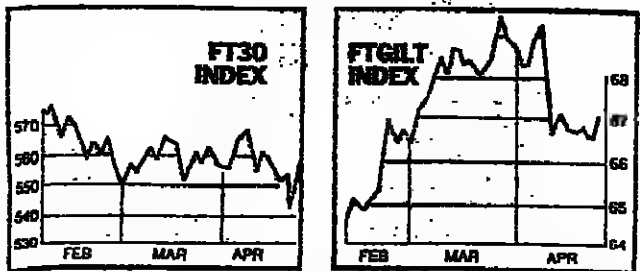
For thoughts that have turned to the possibility of a new settlement and the opportunity to bring a new chapter to the life of the island, she was a pioneer. She was the first to suggest that the island should be a part of the United Kingdom, and she was the first to suggest that the island should be a part of the United Kingdom.

F MORRIS

# BUSINESS NEWS

سوق الأوراق المالية

## Rally by markets



The improved prospects for peace in the Falklands crisis made a rapid impact in the Stock Market where the FT 100 index rallied 7.4 to 558.1 after the 9.6 fall last week. Dealers are now expecting a rise in the index of up to 30 points if the crisis is resolved. Meanwhile trade in the gilt market remains thin but last week's 0.26 fall in the FT Gilts Index was reversed yesterday with a 0.56 rise to 67.06.

## Hold-up on Clore assets

Jersey courts have given until the end of the week for parties with interests in the late Sir Charles Clore's estate to agree on whether Stype Investments should transfer £20m to the Official Solicitor in England. Stype wants to transfer the money after a Court of Appeal judgment that the Inland Revenue could proceed against it for £15m capital transfer tax arising from the sale of Sir Charles' Herefordshire property. The company's £28m assets in England could be seized to pay the CIT liability if it does not comply with the appeal court ruling.

## ACC vote on Gill payoff

Voting shareholders of Associated Communications Corporation met today to decide whether Mr Jack Gill, the dismissed managing director, should get a record £560,000 golden handshake and be able to buy his house for £100,000 below market value. Five ACC directors, including Lord Grade, the former chairman, have promised Mr Gill to cast their 43.5 per cent in his favour.

## Swing into deficit

The capital account of industrial and commercial companies swung into deficit in the final quarter of 1981 as the pace of destocking slowed. Companies had a borrowing requirement of £5,600m in the second half of 1981, after repaying £1,200m in the first half. This was more than covered by £3,900m from the banks and £4,800m from elsewhere.

Business Editor, page 19

## £20m drift

Profits of Britain's biggest shipping consortium, Overseas Containers Limited, fell from £46m to £26m last year. Sir Ronald Swayne, chairman, blamed competition, the recession, and industrial action by seamen and dockers.

Business Editor, page 19

## MARKET SUMMARY

## Peace hopes lift shares

### LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 558.1 up 7.4  
FT Gilts 67.06 up 0.56  
FT All share 317.21 up 2.75  
Bargains 13,979

Hopes for a peaceful settlement in the Falklands crisis brought a late boost to the Stock Market where after drifting down most of the day the FT Index closed up 7.4 at 558.1.

Trade was quiet throughout the day with little selling but with the apparent breakthrough in the diplomatic situation leading shares to rise quickly marked up, led by GEC 22p better at 619p. Glaxo 13p ahead at 603p, and BP gaining 10p to 296p.

Companies with Argentine interests quickly responded with BAT at 415p up 10p, and Lloyds Bank gaining 5p after hours to 420p.

Lonsdale Universal recorded the biggest gain of the day with a 25p jump to 67p after a dawn raid by brokers Carr-Saunders led by GEC 22p better at 619p. Carr-Saunders had an 11.22 per cent stake. Menzies hardened 1p to 236p.

Trade in the gilt market remained thin, but after losing some of Friday's gains the hopes for peace left long dates with gains of 2 1/2 and shorts up to 2 1/2 better.

### COMMODITIES

● The world's tin producers and tin consumers met separately in London yesterday as a prelude to the opening of the International Tin Council's four-day meeting today when the question of export controls may be re-examined.

Members spent most of March discussing whether export controls should be imposed to bolster prices. The producers were all in favour of such a move, but consumers — led by the United States — were against. Another matter under discussion will be the new five-year pact, due to come into force in July. The financial position of the council's buffer stock is also likely to be closely examined.

The London tin market, after jumping £100 in the first few days following the news, settled down in very narrow trading at between £7,350 and £7,380 a metric ton for three months delivery. The buffer manager was said to have been "busy" buying in both London and Penang, Malaysia.

### TODAY

Mr Edward Heath addresses American Chamber of Commerce lunch, London.

Company meetings. Interim. Wm. Low. Fairs. Bodycote Interiors. Bousfield. First Charlotte Assets Trust. Green's Economist. Estates Duties Investment Trust. Hamilton Oil Great Britain. Hallam Sleigh and Chester. Lamont. John Menzies. Lord Perry Motors. Smiths Industries. Tisbury Group. United Parcels. Webster Group. Welbeck Investments.

### MONEY MARKETS

● The Bank provided a total of £402m assistance, rather less than the estimated shortage of £520m, at unchanged rates. Very short rates were firmer, while period rates remained steady.

Domestic rates: Base rates 13%. A month interbank 14-15%. Euro-currency rates: 3 month DM 9 1/2-15 1/2. 3 month FR 9 1/2-15 1/2. 3 month FF 21% - 21%.

## GEC wins £250m order for S Africa

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

GEC has won a contract worth more than £250m to supply turbine generators for a new power station in South Africa.

The order continues the run of major export success by the British heavy electrical engineering industry. Within the past month, GEC, Northern Engineering Industries and Babcock and Wilcox have won about £600m worth of business to supply equipment for power stations in India and Taiwan.

The South African contract, announced yesterday, includes six 600MW generators for a coal-fired power station to be built in the south-eastern Transvaal between Volksrust and Amersfoort.

GEC expects at least 80 per cent of the work — more than £200m worth of business — to be done at its plants in Britain. The remainder of the equipment will be made locally by GEC South Africa and Barlow Rand.

The work, which will begin in 1984, will secure hundreds of jobs at the Rugby base of GEC Turbine Generators for the remainder of this decade. Altogether more than 8,000 people are expected to work on the project.

Mr Bob Davidson, managing director, said last night that this brought the firm's order book for heavy generators to £1,600m. His company now has 11.5 per cent of the world market, just behind the leader, Mitsubishi of Japan, with 12 per cent.

In the open South African market, GEC has won half of all generator orders since 1975. The company is also constructing six 600MW units for the Duvha power station and another six for the Tutuka station.

The first three Duvha generators are already operating successfully, and GEC attributes the new contract — won against eight foreign competitors — to the happy experience of the South African Electricity Supply Commission (Escom) with those units.

In design, the new generators will be very similar to the standard modern unit which GEC has been building since the early 1970s. Although the technology may not have changed much, Mr Davidson said, the company's heavy investment in manufacturing equipment had significantly reduced their construction costs.

Finance for the South African project announced yesterday was arranged by Hill Samuel. A buyer credit from the Export Credits Guarantee Department will support 85 per cent of the price of the order. Hill Samuel has arranged a Eurodollar loan to cover the South African part of the contract.

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Mr Peter Walker opening London's new futures market in soyabean oil yesterday

## £48m lift-off for gold

By Sally White

Trading in the two new futures markets that opened in London yesterday — gold and soyabean oil — started well. Both reported a good volume of activity.

The London gold futures market had done 2,338 lots, of 100 each, by the close of trade. The value of that is about £48m. Most activity centred on the August position, where the price fell from an early high of £211.75 to close at around £204.75 an ounce on hopes of a peaceful settlement in the Falklands.

Mr Keith Smith, of Mocatta & Goldsmid, chairman of the new market, said that once it is fully established, probably by the autumn, daily volume could be 5,000 contracts. The market, which was opened by Sir Christopher Leaver, the Lord Mayor of London, is unique in offering futures trading in bullion in sterling.

Those members of the London Gold Futures Market who may trade on the floor range from London merchant banks to leading metal groups.

London hopes to attract business from the New York and Zurich markets and to gain a larger market share of the bullion business done by the leading producers.

The Soyabean Oil Market was opened by Mr Peter Walker, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The first day's trading saw turnover of 225 lots, of which 52 lots were crossed. Good trade interest was seen although sellers predominated. Most trade was in the August position, where the price came down about \$2 to \$489 a tonne.

Mr Tony Shepherd, of Czarnikow, chairman of the London Vegetable Oil Terminal Market Association, said that business was expected to average 100 lots a day. The last time a vegetable oil market was set up, in the 1970s, lack of trade support caused it to collapse. But this time the trade has been fully canvassed and the dollar contract is designed to fulfill its requirements.

Mr Walker, who was joined by Sir Christopher Leaver, the Lord Mayor of London, and Sir Peter Goss, the Mayor of London, opened the market.

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## Move over dollar rate denied

From Peter Norman, Brussels, April 19

Reports that France, Canada, Italy, Japan and West Germany have agreed to press the United States at the Versailles economic summit to keep the dollar within a defined band of fluctuation caused surprise among officials preparing the meeting.

One said that such ideas had not yet been brought to the attention of the working group and that no specific proposals on currency policy had yet been worked out for the summit's final communiqué.

However, such disclaimers do not rule out an approach by some western states to try to get Washington to play a more active role in controlling the dollar's movements on foreign exchange markets.

European finance ministry officials and central bankers have tended to regard the United States decision of last May against intervention as a mistake and as contributing to the dollar's erratic movements.

□ Bailey Morris in Washington writes: Dr Beryl Sprinkel, under-secretary for monetary affairs at the Treasury said that under no circumstances would the US consider a policy of fixed exchange rates for the dollar similar to those to those being proposed by President Mitterrand of France.

The idea was inconsistent with Reagan administration policy, Dr Sprinkel said. "I'm aware of no interest on our part to re-enter that losing game of exchange rate intervention. Recent history shows that it simply doesn't work."

Dr Sprinkel said the administration saw intervention as especially inappropriate at a time when the world's economic policies were sharply divided with some countries pursuing policies of low inflation and others of high inflation, such as France, were implementing inflationary policies.

Dr Sprinkel, a member of the American preparatory group for the Versailles summit in June, said he was privy to administration thinking on exchange rates and other economic issues likely to arise.

The United States is interested in doing a "better job" of co-ordinating economic policies "among western nations and Japan, he said.

□ Rising hopes for a settlement of the Falklands crisis gave the pound a fillip in late trading. It jumped by nearly 50 points to \$1,766. The news depressed gold, which had been drifting lower for most of the day, mainly on profit-taking. It closed in London \$14.50 down at \$348 and ounce.

Mr Ian MacGregor, BSC chairman, told the committee last year that the loss of the American business would cut BSC sales by up to 500,000 tonnes a year and the corporation would lose 10 per cent of its business. He also hinted that more jobs would be lost.

On energy prices, the committee was clearly impressed by BSC's estimate that its total disadvantage on energy costs, compared with its principal competitors, was about £40m a year on an annual output of 14m tonnes of liquid steel. The chief disadvantage, according to the corporation, is on electricity prices, which are 15-20 per cent higher than in other countries.

It is also concerned about the possibility that American restrictions might be applied to steel from non-EEC countries which, in turn, could unload surplus production onto the European market.

"This is one example of a problem which extends to other industries, and illuminates the risk to the United Kingdom and the EEC of restrictive United States trade policies," the report says.

The committee wants the Government to raise the issue again with the European Commission, and to press for contingency plans.

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## BL paid Edwardes £95,500 last year

By Edward Townsend

Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman of BL, who is to leave the company at the end of the year, was paid a salary of £95,500 in 1981, the BL annual accounts disclosed yesterday.

In 1980, when Sir Michael was on secondment to BL from Chloride Group, he was paid £65,400, but BL also made an undisclosed payment to Chloride and the accounts stress that the figures do not reflect the comparable cost to BL for the two years.

Speculation that Sir Michael received a massive pay rise last year has caused embarrassment to the company, particularly as BL workers have accepted wage rises well below the rate of inflation for four years.

Confirming his intention to leave the job, Sir Michael stressed in the annual report his firm belief "that the company now has the depth of management, the determi-

nation of employees, the confidence of suppliers, dealers and customers and the products across the complete range to ensure the complete recovery of the company's strategy by 1983-84."

BL's 1981 results, previously announced, show a pre-tax loss of £244.6m against £293.9m in 1980. They were described by Sir Michael as a modest but significant improvement. The company is being funded by about £470m of state aid for 1982-83 and £277m of recently negotiated bank loans.

The accounts show that BL's short-term borrowings last year dropped sharply from £323m in 1980 to £153.4m and net interest charges fell from £93.6m to £88.3m.

Last year's losses were inflated to £497m largely by the provision of £152m to cover the closure and redundancy programme bringing the two-year total for restructuring to £291m.

It is too early to say whether the March figures, which may be revised later, signal any upturn in consumer spending. Most forecasters, including the Treasury, account the increase to remain sluggish this year.

Retail sales in the first three months of 1982 were unchanged from the same period in 1981, but about 1 per cent above their level in the previous three months.

The value of retail sales in March, not seasonally adjusted, was 9 per cent higher than a year earlier. Taking into account the increase in sales over the period, prices in the shops have risen by roughly 8 per cent in the year, well below the general rate of inflation of 11 per cent.

Retailers have kept up sales by cutting profit margins — one explanation for why the trade has been sounding gloomier than the official figures would suggest.

RETAIL SALES  
Figures for the volume of retail sales released by the Department of Trade:

	Index by volume (1971=100)	Index by value (1971=100)
1980 1st Qtr	104.7	+20
2nd Qtr	104.1	+12
3rd Qtr	104.2	+13
4th Qtr	104.2	+9
1981 1st Qtr	104.2	+8
2nd Qtr	104.7	+8
3rd Qtr	105.5	+8
4th Qtr	105.4	+8
1982 1st Qtr	105.7 (prov.)	+8 (prov.)
1981 1st Qtr	104.7	+10
Feb.	105.1	+8
Mar.	105.7	+8
1982 Jan.	105.1	+8
Feb.	107.0 (prov.)	+8 (prov.)
Mar.	107.0 (prov.)	+8 (prov.)

Source: Department of Trade

## Government data on spending criticized

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The Government should give Parliament much more information on its public spending plans in future, according to the Commons Treasury Committee.

In a report on Government spending the committee says that information on the cost, relative price and the output of public spending should be included in future White Papers.

It says this information is needed in addition to the figures for cash planning which the Treasury published in this year's White Paper.

Mr Edward Du Cann, the committee chairman, said that Parliament was being asked to approve figures "without knowing what the money is being spent on".

The committee says that volume plans need not challenge the primacy of cash planning but are necessary in assessing spending measures.

The report, which is conciliatory in tone, draws attention to a number of pledges by Treasury officials and by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to try to give more information on public spending.

The committee is particularly keen to try to measure the effectiveness with which public funds are used in spending programmes. The subject is expected to be raised in a Parliamentary debate on the Government spending plans tomorrow.





# Standard Chartered

Bank PLC



1980

## Comments by the Chairman, The Rt. Hon. Lord Barber

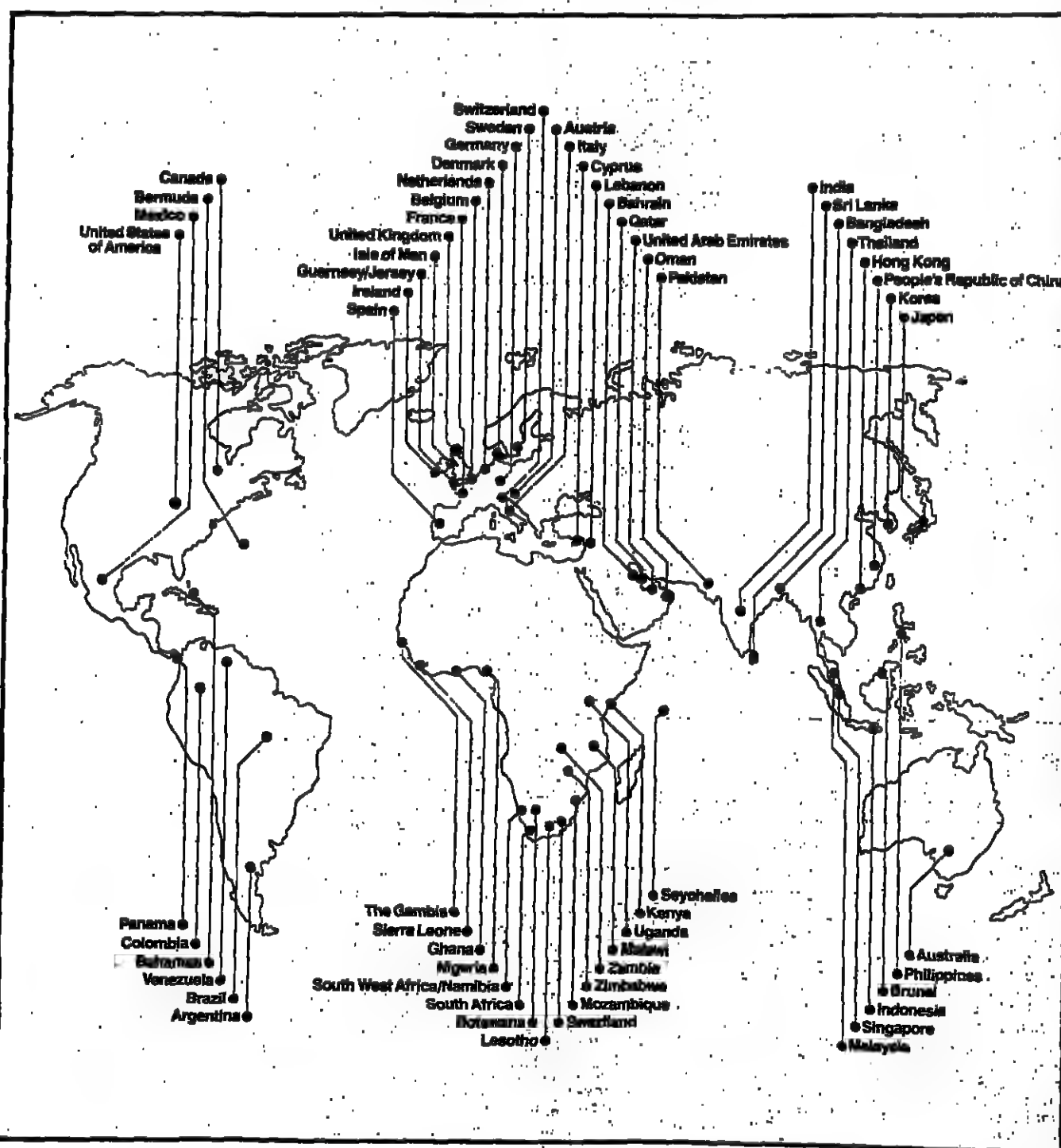
**Profits before taxation up 12%**  
**Earnings per share up 24%**  
**Dividend up 14%**

**Shareholders' Funds now**  
**£1,023 million**  
**Total Assets now**  
**£19,822 million**

Profits before taxation for the year ended 31st December 1981 amounted to £260 million, compared with £233 million the year before. The net profit attributable to shareholders, after deducting taxation and minority interests, was £135 million or 156 pence per share. The total dividend proposed for the year is 37 pence per share.

The triennial valuation of group properties resulted in a net surplus of £234 million, which has been added to group reserves, and the total of shareholders' funds at the end of 1981 amounted to £1,023 million. The directors have recommended a bonus issue of one fully paid ordinary share for each two ordinary shares currently held, after which the issued capital of the bank will amount to £130 million.

In commercial banking the group's strong domestic banking systems in Africa produced very satisfactory results and the branch operations of The Chartered Bank in the East sustained their profitable contributions. The newer group branches in Europe



**1,500 offices in 60 countries**  
**around the world.**

achieved a significant increase in earnings, as did the international and treasury divisions in London, both of which made record profits. Group merchant banks had a

good year. The instalment finance companies in Britain and South Africa were adversely affected by interest movements on their fixed rate lending as was Union Bank in

### California.

During the twelve years since the Standard Chartered Bank group was created, we have developed new commercial banking operations in the metropolitan market places of Europe and North America to complement our traditional branch networks in Africa and the East. At the same time we have used the strength of our balance sheet to make acquisitions in related financial services companies, as well as to invest in the Mocatta group of companies and to undertake the purchase of Union Bank in California.

While not all these developments are yet making a satisfactory contribution, we have endeavoured to secure a foothold in most of the banking market places that are open to us in the free world and to develop the experience and skills that will ensure a worthwhile business for us in the future.

With the strength provided by the diversified structure and operations of the Standard Chartered group, we are well placed to maintain progress.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts and of the Chairman's Statement may be obtained from: The Secretary, 10 Clements Lane London EC4N 7AB

# The bank with experience the world over

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## BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

## INTERNATIONAL



## ITALY

## Government moves to shield lira

The Italian Government has tightened regulations for foreign trade payments, to protect the lira after a shock 2,038,000m (£388m) balance of payments deficit in March, which brought the deficit for January-March to 3,433,000m.

The Ministry of foreign trade announced a batch of measures to reduce the possibilities for delayed payment of exports and for advance payment of imports. The period in which foreign currency may be held in accounts before conversion into lire is cut from 15 to 7 days.

Among other measures, exports must be paid within 60 instead of 120 days, while it is forbidden to settle imports in advance of dates stipulated in contracts.

## FRANCE

France's gross domestic product will expand about 2 per cent in 1982, slightly less than the official target but higher than the near flat growth recorded last year, according to the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

## SWITZERLAND

Switzerland's March trade deficit narrowed to Sfr502.5m (£146.9m) from 798.8m in March last year. In February the deficit was Sfr370.7m.

## SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia could reduce its oil production to 5 million barrels a day from the present 7 million without hurting its own economy, Alawi Darwish Kayal, Saudi Minister of Posts, telephones and telegraphs, told European business heads at a management forum, in Geneva.

## PHILIPPINES

Developing Asian countries gave a "generally satisfactory" economic performance in 1981, but face a growing need for foreign financing to maintain their development momentum for the rest of the decade, the Asian Development Bank says in its 1981 annual report in Manila.

## APPOINTMENTS

Mr T. F. (Tom) James, chairman of the William Moss Group, has stepped down as chairman of the group's main subsidiary, William Moss (Construction). Mr John Bower succeeds him as chairman and chief executive and Mr Bob Baker, managing director of the Moss Liverpool branch, becomes deputy chairman.

Mr Geoffrey Walker will become managing director of Stephens & Clippings, the shipowning subsidiary of Powell Duffryn, on January 1 1983. He will succeed Mr Grahame Stafford who retires on December 31 1982, having served the company for more than 46 years.

Mr R K Martin has been appointed to the board of The Distillers Company. He was previously managing director of Elgin, and to present holds a senior position in Distillers' Edinburgh Whisky production organization.

Mr A V Alexander has been elected chairman of the British Insurance Brokers' Association, succeeding Mr H F Findlay, who retires on May 11. Mr Alexander, who is currently a deputy chairman of the BIBA is a director of Sedgwick Group.

## DARES ESTATES

## Rentals boost profits

Higher rental income and a larger number of property deals helped to boost profits of Birmingham-based development and investment group Dares Estates in the year to last December. Pre-tax profits were more than doubled at £853,000, while net profits jumped to £1m from £113,000 last time after the sale of the group's housebuilding subsidiary last September.

Trading profits, which cover most of the group's development and investment activities, were £315,000 against a loss of £37,000, while dealing contributed £538,000, compared with £384,000. Turnover rose by almost 50 per cent to £7.4m.

The dividend for the year is 1.78p gross, against 1.61p, while earnings per share have advanced from 1.52p to 2.75p. On the current share price Dares has a p/e ratio of about 7½ and a net asset value of 28p per share.

Mr David Sid, managing director, says it is too early to give any indication of how the present year is proceeding. The group has embarked

## System X: plugging in at last?



British Telecom is facing two major challenges: the constant problem posed by worldwide technological advancement and the domestic challenge posed by the Government's intention to liberalize the telephone system. Here BILL JOHNSTONE assesses the potential of British Telecom's digital telephone exchange, System X. Foreign systems have already been sold abroad, but CLIVE COOKSON explains how British Telecom has the telephone receiver market to itself despite a move to introduce private competition.



Industry Secretary Patrick Jenkin...hoping for successful link-up with China.

The possibility that the British manufacturers of the electronic digital telephone exchange System X might at last sell one of their network overseas has elated the system's designers and, for the moment, silenced their critics.

Standard Telephones and Cables (STC) has made the breakthrough by getting the Chinese Authorities in Guang Dong province to test a small exchange which is expected to be the forerunner of a multi-million pound contract.

There might also be sales in Portugal, India, China, Colombia, Libya and the Caribbean if all goes well. But contracts for these areas are being contested by the designers of System X against fierce competition.

The major telecommunication equipment manufacturers like the French Thomson-CSF and CIT Alcatel, the German company Siemens, the American companies Western Electric, ITT and Northern Telecom and the Japanese manufacturers Nippon Electric Company (NEC), Hitachi and Fujitsu represent the principal competition for overseas contracts.

Foreign rivals of the British system have captured major contracts in Saudi Arabia, Thomson and Alcatel in Iraq, Alcatel in Bahrain, NEC and Ericsson in Malaysia, NEC-Hitachi in Argentina, Western Electric in Iran and Thomson in Russia.

How good is the technology and how does the British product compare with that of its overseas competitors?

Since System X was conceived in the early 1970s almost £20m has been spent on its development. It has been the subject of much criticism particularly directed at the marketing efforts which have produced no overseas sales.

The three manufacturers — GEC, Plessey and STC — in partnership with British Telecom developed the system. It will replace local and trunk exchanges in the UK before the end of the decade giving many facilities previously only available on small private systems. Answering facilities and the ability to re-

route telephone calls on request along with itemised billing, some of the options which will be available with System X exchanges.

General opinion is that the technology is as good as most of its competitors but the success of tenders for overseas contracts may depend not on the technology but on the finance made available for the purchase, particularly in the Third World.

In order to sell the technology overseas successfully it was necessary for it to be installed and operating in the United Kingdom. British Telecom embarked on the

first phase of a 10-year programme for installing System X exchanges around Britain by opening a junction exchange in London in 1980. The following year, in August, 1981, a local exchange based on the System X design was installed at Woodbridge, Suffolk, which in turn was followed by the installation of a trunk exchange in Cambridge and another local exchange near by at Arrington.

Two more exchanges are expected to be completed this year — one junction exchange in Liverpool and another local exchange in

Drighlington near Leeds. By the end of the decade British Telecom will have spent more than £1,500m installing System X equipment. The old electro-mechanical switching exchanges using what is called a Strowger design will be replaced by electronic units where each telephone call, or message, transmitted over telephone lines is represented by a series of pulses of electricity. These digital signals travel at high speed and produce few errors.

Most of the criticism levelled at the System X designers has been that the

able for outright sale (though a few can only be rented) and most made in Britain or, if not in Europe, at least in a country where the company can stick on a green "approved" mark and sell them freely.

Mr Baker says the British manufacturers' failure so far to put any of their phones on private sale is "extremely disappointing". He is furious with them for spurning the Government's attempts to give them a legal head start over the illegal imports in the private shops.



The Department of Industry fears that the independent sector will continue to be dominated by the importers when it becomes legal and ministers and civil servants are currently twisting the British manufacturers' arms to make them supply private shops. As yet, the intentions, GEC will say only that it is "actively considering the market".

The manufacturers have tried hard to avoid making public comment about their loyalty to BT. However, at a recent briefing for the trade press, senior executives of TMC, the British-based telecommunications subsidiary of Philips, could not escape a barrage of questions about the Government's policy for the so-called DXT.

BT will buy 1.2m DXTs from TMC, GEC and Plessey during the first year of production (starting this summer) for just under £24m. But they will be available for private sale. Anyone who wants an DXT must buy or rent from BT.

"We favour the relaxation of (BT's) monopoly," Mr Jim Greenfield, commercial director of TMC, says. But when we look at the market-

place we must decide how we can best market our products. We still think that at the moment our best route to the market lies with British Telecom."

TMC executives believe the Government is anxious to fill the high street with British-made phones for political reasons — to give the public early and visible evidence that the Government's telecommunications liberalization programme is working.

Of course, the availability of the new electronic phones is likely to boost the number of extensions rapidly (more than half of the homes in the United States have more than one phone). But the British manufacturers believe BT can grab the lion's share of the growth, by offering customers service and maintenance that no private competitor can hope to match.

If companies are running up deficits now, how much larger will they be when they start to build up their stocks and increase capital investment (largely unchanged last year)?

Though profits are expected to increase rapidly over the coming year — some analysts think by as much as a third — these will be nothing like sufficient to



Snoopy and Mickey Mouse...brought to you by British Telecom.

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technology is too old and too late. The basic design however is expected to evolve and to be developed.

It was originally designed for the British market and those areas in the world which would adopt British technical standards and methods of operating such systems. But the intention has always been to exploit the export potential of the design.

To that end the four partners in the System X venture formed a marketing company in 1979 called British Telecommunications Systems Limited which was to do all the marketing for selling the technology outside the United Kingdom, excluding Europe and America.

The initial idea was to concentrate on the Third World markets and then later to consider competing in other areas. The idea at first appeared sound. Britain still had plenty of business connections based on previous Commonwealth trading agreements and it seemed sensible to exploit them.

Also, System X would require major design improvements if it were to be sold in America and to a lesser degree in most countries in Europe.

However, a recent study commissioned by the Department of Industry and conducted by consultants Communication Studies and Planning highlighted the point that the Third World is more interested in aid than trade and as a consequence a financial package could be crucial to any tender.

The report surprisingly concluded that America and Europe were potential markets for sales of the British digital system. However, more than £16m needs to be spent on the system for it to compete in Europe and America. The CS&P study was meant to gauge the export potential of the design in the wake of the manufacturers' request for funding to finance development.

The Government is still studying the findings of the report which it has yet to publish. It has not decided whether to agree to finance the technical enhancement programme for System X.

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## Business Editor

## Signs of hope stir market

Financial markets tend to read the economic runes well enough. But judging the course of politics is generally not their forte. Hence their confusion over the Falklands crisis. Yesterday long gilts turned half-point to a level of 4½ per cent.

The justification for the changed sentiment was the hope of a negotiated settlement of the crisis under the auspices of the United Nations. If there is agreement before the fleet arrives in the Falklands, the stock market could bound by 20 or 30 points and gilts might resume their upward trend which was halted by the Argentine invasion.

The technical position for both shares and gilts is strong. Institutional money has stayed on the sidelines and short positions abound. The fundamentals also look good with monetary growth only 0.2 per cent up last month, wholesale prices pointing to lower inflation, and a 1981/2 Public Sector Borrowing Requirement of perhaps £9,500m expected to be announced on Thursday, an undershoot of £1,000m.

But despite the belief there is some light at the end of the Falklands tunnel, markets fear that the credibility of the Prime Minister might take a knock should talk of the stock market retreating after a sharp recovery because of concern over the run up to the election. A day is a long time in the markets, 18 months, as someone said, is an eternity in politics.



Margaret Thatcher.

## Borrowing

## Recovery doubt

Companies face the long haul out of recession in somewhat precarious financial shape, according to the latest official figures on their borrowing needs in the final quarter of 1981.

A sharp deceleration in the rate of destocking, from £2,200m in the first half of the year to only £700m in the second half, was enough to tip companies into financial deficit on capital account.

They ran a deficit of £480m in the fourth quarter after a surplus of £24m in the third quarter, sharply down from the big surplus of £1,500m seen in the first six months of the year.

This was despite a substantial improvement in trading profits between the first and second halves of the year.

Companies' borrowing needs reached a staggering £4,600m in the final quarter last year, from less than £1,000m in the third quarter and repayment of £1,200m in the first half.

Some part of this can be explained by the exceptional payment of large amounts of back tax delayed by the civil service dispute. But more than half is the result of "unidentified transactions" about which Whitehall statisticians confess to be baffled.

This does not bode well for the government's attempts to keep bank lending under some semblance of restraint.

If companies are running up deficits now, how much larger will they be when they start to build up their stocks and increase capital investment (largely unchanged last year)?

Though profits are expected to increase rapidly over the coming year — some analysts think by as much as a third — these will be nothing like sufficient to

finance recovery on the scale the government is hoping for.

## VAT Ripe for reform

Almost no one likes value added tax. It could even be argued that widespread unpopularity of the Common Market could be attributed in part to its connexion in the public mind with the introduction of the tax.

Small businesses have been more vocal than most in their opposition; and now a working party, representatives of small business organizations has been set up to look at how operation of the tax can be simplified.

With the sponsorship of Mr Michael Gyles MP and Mr Fred Tomkyn Euro-MP, the working party will examine how VAT works in the European Community.

Demand for revision of the VAT rules in the United Kingdom have been building steadily since the business and Customs and Excise inspectors are poor and the costs of collecting the tax from small businesses do nothing to encourage confidence in the existing system.

Though the overall costs of collection work out at 2p for every £1 which goes to the Exchequer, the collection costs from businesses with sales less than £20,000 can be as high as 50p per £1, according to the small business lobby.

Customs can hardly be satisfied with existing procedures either.

Registered traders can expect a visit from their VAT inspector once every three years, and in the 340,000 control visits in 1980/1981, inspectors discovered under-declarations amounting to £416m.

The working party is scheduled to report its findings on how the European system handles the administration of the tax by the autumn. It intends to have its recommendations considered for inclusion in next year's finance bill.

One useful starting point for the inquiry is the French system for small businesses where traders and VAT inspectors sit down together and agree a prospective level of turnover, and thus an agreed tax liability for the year.

## House prices Measured rise

Spring in the housing market has sprung very suddenly this year with a surprising surge of interest from homebuyers even greater than the normal seasonal upturn.

House prices are showing their first rises since July of last year and the latest survey from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors reveals increases of up to 5 per cent in some areas on new properties, and the "benchmark" pre-1919 terraced houses which underpin the market.

The appalling winter kept buyers at home but the sudden change in the weather, coupled with the cut in mortgage rates have combined to revive interest.

Average house prices have declined steadily since last summer from just over £25,000 to £23,552 in February of this year.

The market therefore has to show a rise of between 8 and 9 per cent simply to restore house prices to their levels of last summer.

Building societies report more pressure on homebuyers during March at an all-time high of £1,491 million and the likelihood is that the official figures for average house prices will also show a significant improvement.

But both the building societies and the Chartered Surveyors believe that in spite of homebuyers' sudden burst of enthusiasm and the easy availability of home loans, house prices will increase by around 5 to 9 per cent over the year.

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 9EB Telephone 01-621 1212

## The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Vid %	Actual	P/E	Full Yield
130	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	73	—	10.0	7.8	—	—	—	—
75	62	Airspur Group	128	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	—	16.0	—
51	33	Armstrong & Rhodes	44	—	4.3	9.8	3.7	—	8.3	—
205	187	Barndon Hill	198	—	9.7	4.9	9.6	11.7	—	—
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—	—	—
104	61	Deborah Services	62	+1	6.0	9.7	3.1	—	5.8	—
131	97	Frank Horsell	126	—	6.4	5.1	11.4	23.3	—	—
83	39	Frederick Parker	74	-1	8.6	8.5	8.8	7.2	—	—
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	83	Ind Prec Castings	98	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	—	—
108	100	Isis Conv Pref	108	-1	15.7	14.5	—	—	—	—
113	108	Jackson Group	96	—	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8	—	—
134	240	James Burroughs	113	-1	6.7	7.7	8.2	10.4	—	—
384	240	Robert Jenkins	240	—	3.3	13.0	3.3	8.5	—	—
64	51	Scrummors Ltd	64	—	5.3	8.3	8.8	9.1	—	—
222	159	Torrey & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	8.7	5.1	9.5	—	—
15	10	Twinklind Ord	134	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinklind 15% ULS	80	—	15.0	18.8	—	—	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	—	—
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	8.2	—	—
263	212	W. S. Yates	230	—	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.0	—	—

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds	13%
C. Hoare & Co	13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

\* 7 day deposits on basis of 100,000 to 250,000 11% 250,000 and over 11.5%

## WALTER LAWRENCE

## Building up

Strong performances in contracting, housing and development helped industrial holding group Walter Lawrence to a record pre-tax profit of £1.93m in the year to December, 35 per cent above the previous year. Turnover slipped from £64.23m to £63.37m. Dividends rise by 10 per

## LATEST RESULTS

Company	Share	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
or P/B	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
C. D. Bramall (F)	43.5(30.81)	2.1(1.87)	25.1(24.0)	3.9(3.5)	28/5	6(5.55)
Brit. Rayophane (F)	58.7(55.53)	0.78(0.778)	—	—	—	—
Brit. Sider (F)	45.4(55.5)	0.11(0.14)	0.56(0.72)	0.5(0.7)	—	0.5(0.7)
Burns & McDonnell (F)	11.2(12.2)	19.8(22.8)	4.2(3.7)	4.2(3.7)	7/6	4.2(3.7)
Currys (F)	0.85(0.84)	2.75(2.52)	—	—	—	—
Dares Eats (F)	7.4(25.0)	0.47(0.3)	7.0(10.28)	1.6(2.8)	—	2.6(4.5)
Headman, Sims (F)	1.7(1.9)	0.08(0.11)	—	—	—	—
Headmores (F)	5.4(4.4)	0.05(0.08)	31.2(22.4)	—	—	—
Highland Elect. (F)	4.2(4.6)	1.1(1.3)	33.2(37.3)	5.7(5.5)	2/7	8.2(7.5)
Int. Thomson (F)	1.18(0.97)	0.84(0.8)	—	—	—	—
W. Lawrence (F)	63.3(54.2)	1.9(1.35)	13.5(13.8)	1.2(1.2)	—	3.5(3.5)
W. S. Yates (F)	17.6(14.4)	0.61(0.39)	—	—	4/6	1.2(1.2)
Yale, Leeds (F)	—	3.1(2.7)	—	—	—	8.5(8.28)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on price per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. b=Loss. c=Trading profit.







# Controlled expansion in line with our strategy

A year ago we announced the new emphasis being given to controlled expansion. We have made a satisfactory start towards achieving our targets, notwithstanding the severe action we felt it necessary to take in Canada and Australia. In both the US and the UK, our two largest territories, premiums increased by over 15% enabling us to achieve real growth without sacrificing sound underwriting principles.

## Changes in presentation of the accounts

The general insurance profit has been struck after adding to the underwriting balance that part of the investment income allocated to the general insurance funds. We believe that this way of reporting our business accords with the realities of the market place and gives shareholders a clearer understanding of the return derived from our insurance operations.

## Dividend

As we have said in the past, one of our prime objectives is to pursue a progressive dividend policy and we are adhering to this course whilst at the same time taking into account the need to retain profits to support the growth, both real and inflationary, in our business.

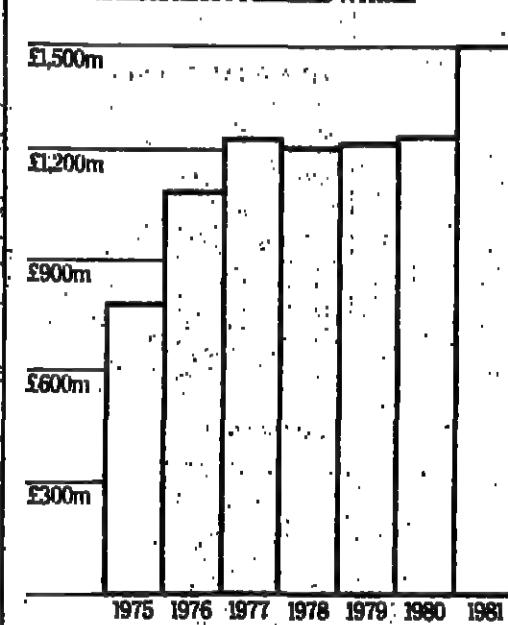
## Insurance Company taxation

Under present tax law all additions to insurance companies' free reserves have to be made out of fully taxed earnings. Unlike industrial and other commercial concerns we receive no tax relief for the effect of inflation. We feel it would be equitable for UK insurance companies, as successful operators in world markets benefiting the economy through their overseas earnings, to qualify for some alleviation of tax towards mitigating the effect of inflation on the maintenance of their capital resources.

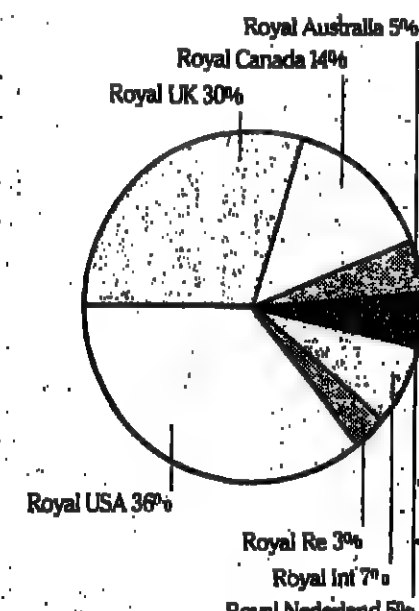
## Summary of Results

	1981 £m	1980 £m
General Insurance		
Premiums Written	1,489.9	1,241.7
Underwriting Balance	-102.9	-40.3
Investment Income allocated to General Insurance operations	152.3	113.3
General Insurance Profit	49.4	73.0
Long-term Insurance Profit	12.1	10.0
Investment Income attributable to Capital and Reserves	49.0	33.0
Share of Associated Companies' Profits	7.0	6.2
Profit before Taxation	117.5	122.2
Less Taxation	44.9	50.4
Minority Interests	0.9	0.9
Net Profit attributable to the Shareholders	71.7	70.9
(pence per share)	(38.5p)	(46.2p)
Dividend for the year	47.6	41.7
(pence per share)	(25.25p)	(24.0p)
Transfer to Retained Profits	24.1	29.2

General Insurance Premiums Written



General Insurance Business Worldwide



## Our role in the community

We aim to act as responsible members of the communities in which we operate, in the conviction that we should do all we can to foster a stable climate in which to develop our business activities.

As a UK company, founded in Liverpool, we are glad to be playing a leading part in the Merseyside initiatives to alleviate youth unemployment and other social problems which arise in inner city areas.

We have substantially increased the number of young people we employ through the Manpower Services Commission both on Merseyside and throughout the United Kingdom. We have also seconded a senior manager to serve with the Merseyside task force and, on a national level, another to serve with the Financial Institutions Group, set up by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

## The Future

The difficult trading conditions experienced in 1981 are likely to continue during 1982 and the turning point in some markets may not be reached until 1983.

Meanwhile we continue to maintain a close control over our underwriting operations and in the year ahead we will not hesitate to take strong corrective action wherever necessary. Our overall strategy continues to be to maintain and, where possible, increase our market share where we see profitable opportunities, in order to maximise the return on resources for which we are accountable.

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Barbican Centre for Arts and Conferences on the 12th May, 1982.

# Royal Insurance

Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London

Please send me a copy of the Report and Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1981.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

To: The Secretary Royal Insurance plc,  
Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

## LA CREME DE LA CREME

### RECEPTIONIST

Are you a mature 30-35 year old person able to fill the position of receptionist for a large, very successful advertising agency? You must be well dressed, possess a good speaking voice and sense of humour, be able to deal with our clients at all levels. Your duties will include booking of travel and car hire arrangements and the operation of a small key and lamp switchboard. Salary negotiable to include a dress allowance. Good holidays (1982 arrangements honoured), the usual large company benefits. Please ring Jo Pearce on 387 5086 for an application form and further details.

### Phone Annie Rogers

22,000 PA—Chairman—a lot of personal work.  
£7,500++ PA/SEC. — International advertising agency, 100-12.  
£2,500 Audio—sec. young fun people.  
£2,200+ PA—Sec-PA for account execs, good prospects.  
Phone Annie Rogers  
Brompton Bureau  
Tel. 01-834 1244 (4 lines)

### SECRETARY

Required for City firm of accountants. Excellent salary and benefits. No overtime. Happy to relocate. Conditions, usual benefits.  
Telephone 248 2500  
Reference JLS

### La Creme

SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
For permanent placements.  
01-836 4086

### RECEPTIONIST

25,000  
Secretarial company needs confident, well educated, pleasant receptionist with friendly, outgoing personality. Typing essential.  
01-836 4086

### RECEPTIONIST

25,000  
Film production company needs confident, well educated, pleasant receptionist with friendly, outgoing personality. Typing essential.  
01-836 4086

### Pathfinders

32 MADDOCK STREET, W1  
TEL: 01-836 4086

### SECRETARY

Bright, cheerful young secretary with good typing skills required in SW1.  
Contact Sue Chapman  
01-493 8040

### THE CONNOISSEUR

Intelligent, experienced Secretary needed for the London office of a leading magazine. The vacancy is on the business and advertising side so it is essential we have a candidate with a day-to-day administration of the office in addition to the normal secretarial duties. Publishing or advertising experience useful. Not suitable for college leaver. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0088.

### WELL GROOMED SECRETARY

Required, full time or part time. Good salary + commission. Amber Ltd., 24 Baker St., London, W.1. Tel 486 7783/7.

### STUDENT

(awaiting University of Manchester) able to help with research. Good salary + commission. Amber Ltd., 24 Baker St., London, W.1. Tel 486 7783/7.

### SMALL FIRM

of secretaries and receptionists. Good salary + commission. Amber Ltd., 24 Baker St., London, W.1. Tel 486 7783/7.

### FULL-TIME SECRETARIAL SERVICE

Service. 24-hour service. Good salary + commission. Amber Ltd., 24 Baker St., London, W.1. Tel 486 7783/7.

### RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

Required for public company situated in modern office. Salary negotiable. Person should be confident and have previous experience. Person should be able to deal with our clients at all levels. Your duties will include booking of travel and car hire arrangements and the operation of a small key and lamp switchboard. Salary negotiable to include a dress allowance. Good holidays (1982 arrangements honoured), the usual large company benefits. Please ring Jo Pearce on 387 5086 for an application form and further details.

### PART-TIME VACANCIES

DO YOU HAVE some spare hours each week to help people buy their cars? We are looking for a few more people to join our team. Please ring 01-836 4086 for more details.

### RENTALS

AMERICAN Executive seeks luxury flat or house up to £250 p.w. with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 cars, 2 dogs, 2 cats, 2 birds, 2 fish, 2 plants, 2 trees, 2 flowers, 2 fruits, 2 vegetables, 2 herbs, 2 spices, 2 oils, 2 essences, 2 perfumes, 2 cosmetics, 2 toiletries, 2 cleaning products, 2 gardening tools, 2 sports equipment, 2 musical instruments, 2 books, 2 records, 2 films, 2 TV sets, 2 radios, 2 telephones, 2 computers, 2 calculators, 2 watches, 2 clocks, 2 mirrors, 2 paintings, 2 sculptures, 2 vases, 2 lamps, 2 candles, 2 flowers, 2 plants, 2 trees, 2 fruits, 2 vegetables, 2 herbs, 2 spices, 2 oils, 2 essences, 2 perfumes, 2 cosmetics, 2 toiletries, 2 cleaning products, 2 gardening tools, 2 sports equipment, 2 musical instruments, 2 books, 2 records, 2 films, 2 TV sets, 2 radios, 2 telephones, 2 computers, 2 calculators, 2 watches, 2 clocks, 2 mirrors, 2 paintings, 2 sculptures, 2 vases, 2 lamps, 2 candles, 2 flowers, 2 plants, 2 trees, 2 fruits, 2 vegetables, 2 herbs, 2 spices, 2 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The Associated Press writes. The Argentine Medal has been suspended for a 300 meter match to be shot this afternoon.

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### my. Tennis Correspondent

Scotland .....	0
England .....	1

Almost £90,000 will be stake in the State Express Tennis Classic, the official new title of the British hardcourt championships which will be played on shale at Bournemouth from today until Sunday. The competitors in this men-only tournament are the five French champions and five men who have won at

least one of the game's most famous singles titles: those of France, and the United States.

The main events are a \$44,000 singles for 32 players and an \$11,000 doubles. The former is played in the singles draw and the latter in the doubles draw.

The champions in the singles draw are Angel Gimenez, Jose Higueras, Ilie Nastase, Manuel Orantes and Victor Pecci. The field also includes Claudio Panatta, whose brother Adriano won at Bourne-

The seedings suggest that the main night will be Tarczy vs. Higueras, Mottram vs. Orantes, Jose Luis Damiani vs. Gundhardt and Pedro Rebolledo vs. Pecci. The

drawings between April 26 and May 1, 1974, will be on \$4 and \$10 money should be won. The winners of the \$4 money applicants are notified that they have been successful in the ballot.

## Default by Clerc gives Lendl his 74th victory

Houston, Texas, April 19. — Jose Luis Clerc of Argentina, trailing two matches to one in his final round of Czechoslovakia in a final of a \$300,000 (\$168,000) World Championship tennis tournament here, refused to play by refusing to switch courts after rain interrupted the match.

The referee, who said the light was too bad for him to play properly, tournament officials and spectators were

for the victory, has now won four of his last six singles matches in a final of 15 consecutive tournaments. He said he was disappointed that the match had been called off.

□ Jimmy Connors, the top seed easily bested Manuel Santana in a five-set Sunday afternoon match (5-1, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6, 6-3). Pacific Southwest Open tennis tournament in Los Angeles.

Manuel came out swinging hard from the start, but he was

tomorrow, Santana announced 44 will be the first player to play under the new rules. The only player on view whose singles record includes all three of the major championships.

Nordeste has been named as the incorporator in the title of an anticipated, an eight-man event to be played from December 17 to January 2. The tournament would be being held at North Miami Beach, "touring" is the development's "nursing" professional tennis association in the United States and having it named after him, will be tournament director. This could reasonably be described as a conflict of interest but, as the four-man rule should swiftly resolve any and every dispute that may arise, in fact Nordeste's involvement seems extraordinary lengths to be fair to everyone but himself.

But Clerc refused, saying he had been asked by both the umpire and the referee that the match would continue on the stadium court for another half hour. He said he was up to bat the first set 6-3, but came back to win the second 7-6 after a 66-minute delay caused by the rain. He added that the match was set again when the persistent drizzle again caused play to be suspended.

Clerc broke the set 6-0 after a 23-minute break, but Clerc was ahead with a service break in the fourth set when officials tried to move the match to another court after the fifth game.

Lendl, who received \$100,000,

# Downs leads British challenge

From John Wilcockson, Ostend, April 19

With the first glow of summer making true Oostende's claim to "five miles of golden sands", the Sealink International's three-kilometres prologue time trial has not been the main attraction in this Belgian resort. But when the final times are computed next Saturday afternoon in Manchester after another 762 kilometres of racing, it is probable that seconds gained tonight will be crucial to the final result of the Sealink race.

Appropriately, Belgium has supplied one of the strongest of the 10 teams. Marc Somers, 20, is too young to have turned professional, a move justified by his results in 1983, which included a victory in the mountainous Tour de Woluwe last November. Dick de Wolf is another potential professional

after his win three weeks ago in the French classic Troye-Dijon.

The strong Great Britain squad is headed by the 1980 Sealink winner, Bob Downs, and Jeff Williams, who finished a fine fifth in the Circuit of the Ardennes a week ago. Good overall performances are also expected from Joe Waugh, Malcolm Elliot and Steve Joughin.

After three consecutive Classic wins at home, Joughin has given Among the danger men this week are likely to be Denmark's Michael Marcussen, the convincing winner yesterday of a 20-miles time trial in Copenhagen; Gerrard Schipper, the Great-Oudtman who won his country's national tour in 1981; and Robert Forest riding for France, who

betrayed of the French army.

Of the East Europeans, the most experienced man is Petr Konecny, aged 23, the Czechoslovakian time trial champion, and Zbigniew Szczatkowski, aged 25, the amateur Pole who raced extensively in Britain last year after finishing third in the Milk Race. The Czechoslovakian team is the strongest in the peloton. The Poles are tired after an overload trip from Warsaw of 20 hours. They arrived here only one hour before the signing-off deadline.

If they do not recover sufficiently to live up to their reputations, the limelight could then be taken by David Warrington for the England team. This tall 21-year-old from South London lives and races in the Netherlands.

**FOOTBALL**

**BULGARIAN LEAGUE:** CSKA Sofia 2, Levski Sofia 2, Trakia 0; Belasitsa 2, Haskovo 0; Marek 1, Beroe 1; Emar 1, Slavia 1; Lokomotiv 0, Chernomorec 0; Chernomorec 1, Akademik 2; Spartak 2, Sliven 1; Levski 3, Botev 0.

**TURKISH LEAGUE:** Galatasaray 2, Samsunspor 2; Beşiktaş 0, Adana Demirspor 0; Fenerbahçe 1, Zonguldakspor 1; Ayaz 0.

[illegible]

Eastern Division			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Philadelphia 76ers	43	39	.523
New York Knicks	43	40	.519
Washington Bullets	43	40	.519
Atlanta Braves	33	49	.405
Charlotte Hornets	22	59	.268
Central Division			
Team	W	L	Pct.
San Antonio Spurs	55	27	.671
Indiana Pacers	42	40	.512
Detroit Pistons	39	43	.481
Chicago Bulls	34	47	.420
Cleveland Cavaliers	34	48	.415
Phoenix Suns	18	67	.213
Western Conference			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Los Angeles Lakers	48	34	.585
San Antonio Spurs	48	34	.585
Golden State Warriors	48	34	.585
Phoenix Suns	46	36	.561
Utah Jazz	30	52	.368
Portland Trail Blazers	28	54	.341
San Diego Clippers	25	57	.305

# FIXTURES

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Bolton v Liverpool  
Doncaster v Huddersfield (7).

FOOTBALL CONSERVATION: Chelsea v  
Coventry (2.15); Watford v West Ham.

IRELAND LEAGUE: Boston v Sligo  
Drogheda United v Monaghan (8.30).  
League (8.30); Long Leane vs Shamrock (8.30).  
Shamrock vs Drogheda (9.30).  
League (7.7); Crusaders v Bangor (7.7);  
Wexford v Coleraine (7).

HISTORICAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Harlow  
v Suresse, Lestonhead v Leytonstone and  
Rochford, Slough v Havant, Twickenham and Mitcham  
v Wokingham, Wokingham and Haslemere v Hertford.  
Second Division: Havant v Slough, Slough  
v Wokingham, Wokingham and Haslemere v Hertford.  
Open Cup semi-final play: Kingstonian v  
Wycombe Wanderers.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Burnham v Harold  
Lodge (8.30), Redhill v Banstead.

SOUTH LONDON: Cus Emslie's; Birmingham  
vs Tottenham. Ebbs Vale v Uxbridge (7).

WOMAN'S FOOTBALL: Manchester Wanderers  
v Portsmouth (2.15),  
Barnet v Arsenal (7.15), Leicester  
v Barbican (7).

JACKETS: Colchester Open singles (Queen's  
Park) open.















## Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

## BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Infant Cognition; 7.05 Perception: Cues and Schemes; 7.30 Reading Development; 7.55 Bedtime; 12.05 For Schools: College Junior Craft, Design and Technology. A teachers' programme (shown earlier on BBC 2); 12.25 News; 1.00 News Afternoon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only); Financial report and news headlines with subtitles; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One takes a look at what might be like in the year 2000; 1.45 The Flumps. A See-Saw programme for the very young (7); 2.00 Film: Girls, Girls, Girls (1962) starring Elvis Presley and Stella Stevens. An extremely light romp used mainly as a vehicle for the star's voice; 3.35 Leon Errol in The Spook Speaks; 5.55 Regional news (all London).

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).  
4.20 Cartoons: The All New Popeye Show. Three funnies featuring the spinach-eating sailor.  
4.40 The Record Breakers introduced by Roy Castle with Norris McWhirter (7).  
5.05 John Craven's Newsround. The latest world news of interest to young people.  
5.10 Rentaghost. Comic adventures of a tame spirit.  
5.40 News with Richard Baker. 6.00 South East at Six.  
6.25 Nationwide with Frank Bough and Richard Kershaw.  
6.55 Cartoon: Bugs Bunny in Hare Tonk.  
7.05 Young Musician of the Year. The brass semi-final introduced by Humphrey Burton.  
7.40 Q.E.D. The Proof of the Pudding. Novel ways of cooking everyday food.  
8.10 Flesh and Blood. Episode four of the drama about the owners of and workers in a cement factory and Max believes that he is being set-up for blackmail.

9.00 News with John Simpson.  
9.25 Play for Tomorrow: Bright Eyes, by Peter Prince. It is 1999 and Britain is an established member of a European Community beset by a Euro-war. The play follows the fortunes of a small family and compares their political ideals with those of thirty years before. Starring Robin Ellis and Sarah Berger.  
10.20 Snowdon on Camera. The last in the series and Snowdon assesses the 'worth' of a single photograph — some of which have been sold for as much as \$20,000. Among those he talks to are Sir Roy Strong, Ansel Adams and Diana Vreeland (7).  
11.03 News headlines.  
11.05 Harry O. Tonight he investigates a mystery killer who confesses his crime to a priest (7).  
11.55 Weather.

Bill Fraser: BBC 1, 8.10pm

## BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Frequency Analysis; 7.05 Light: In Search of a Model; 7.30 A Question of Assessment; 5.55 Closedown. 9.00 For Schools: College Junior Craft, Design and Technology. A teachers' programme (shown earlier on BBC 2); 12.25 News; 1.00 News Afternoon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only); Financial report and news headlines with subtitles; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One takes a look at what might be like in the year 2000; 1.45 The Flumps. A See-Saw programme for the very young (7); 2.00 Film: Girls, Girls, Girls (1962) starring Elvis Presley and Stella Stevens. An extremely light romp used mainly as a vehicle for the star's voice; 3.35 Leon Errol in The Spook Speaks; 5.55 Regional news (all London).

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11.55 Weather.

Bill Fraser: BBC 1, 8.10pm

## ITV/LONDON

9.30 Fairy Tale: The Clothes That Went to a Party (7); 9.45 Wild, Wild World of Animals. The Rocky Mountain Big Horn sheep (7); 10.10 Animated Classics; 10.55 Dingo Country (7); 11.25 Paint Along with Nancy (7); 11.55 The Bubbles (7); 12.00 Burton Movie (7); 12.10 Let's Pretend. An action song for the very young; 12.30 The Sullivan, 1.00 News with Peter Sissons; 1.20 Themes news; 1.30 Crown Court; Fair Play. A schoolmaster names a former pupil as his assistant at a fairground; 2.00 Afternoon Plus. Maureen Lipman talks to Mavis Nicholson about her play which opens this week; 2.25 Eastenders. Brough Scott introduces the Evelyn Handicap Stakes (2.30); the Blue Riband Trial Stakes (3.05); and the Dean Swift Handicap Stakes (3.35).

3.50 Home Sweet Home. Erzo helps a friend whose wife has moved out on him.  
4.20 On Safari with Christopher Bigsby and guest Lionel Blair.  
4.45 CB TV — Channel 14. News, views and ideas for young people.  
5.15 The Brady Bunch. Their neighbours adopt an eight-year old boy.  
5.45 News; 6.00 News news.  
6.25 Help! The new regulations about various benefits announced in the Budget are explained.  
6.35 Crossroads. Why is J. Henry Pollard refusing to take telephone calls?  
7.00 Horace. With his mother in bed with 'flu the simple-minded man loses no time in taking charge.  
7.30 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity mime game between two teams — one led by Lionel Blair, the other by Una Stubbs.  
8.00 Sorry I'm a Stranger Here Myself. Henry returns to village life after his brief foray in London.  
8.30 The Morecambe and Wise Show. The lovely Hanne Gordon falls for the irresistible charms of Eric.

9.00 The Brack Report. The scientist has left his job in the nuclear power industry and joined energy consultant Harold Harlan. He sees Harlan as a man likely to bring a change in official nuclear policy but Harlan has his own reasons for employing Brack.  
10.00 News.  
10.30 The Human Race. In this third programme Desmond Morris investigates the development of human language. It is estimated that on average we use about 30,000 words a day. But how did we develop the crucial facility? Among those Morris talks to are Mohawk Indians, comics and street gangs.  
11.30 Kaz. The former jail bird now lawyer defends a popular baseball player accused of beating-up two fans.  
11.25 Close with Dr Joseph Needham, who talks about truth and mankind.

under the expert eye of top chef, Michel Roux. Some remarkable filming enables viewers to see inside the crucible of a restaurant as well as the humble potato. Not exactly a mouthwatering programme but the Professor's sense of humour makes it well worth watching.  
IN POLES APART (Radio 4, 4.10 pm) The crucial facility? Among those Morris talks to are Mohawk Indians, comics and street gangs.  
11.30 Kaz. The former jail bird now lawyer defends a popular baseball player accused of beating-up two fans.  
11.25 Close with Dr Joseph Needham, who talks about truth and mankind.

## Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.  
6.10 Farming Today.  
6.30 News. 6.45 Play for the Day. 7.00 Today's News. 7.30, 8.00 News. Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.00 News. 8.15 Weather and Travel. 8.20 News. 8.25 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411. 10.00 News. 10.05 From our own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.40 News. 10.45 The Forum. 11.00 News. 11.05 The Forum. 11.10 News. 11.15 The Forum. 11.20 News. 11.25 The Forum. 11.30 News. 11.35 The Forum. 11.40 News. 11.45 The Forum. 11.50 News. 11.55 The Forum. 12.00 News. 12.05 The Forum. 12.10 News. 12.15 The Forum. 12.20 News. 12.25 The Forum. 12.30 News. 12.35 The Forum. 12.40 News. 12.45 The Forum. 12.50 News. 12.55 The Forum. 1.00 News. 1.05 The Forum. 1.10 News. 1.15 The Forum. 1.20 News. 1.25 The Forum. 1.30 News. 1.35 The Forum. 1.40 News. 1.45 The Forum. 1.50 News. 1.55 The Forum. 2.00 News. 2.05 The Forum. 2.10 News. 2.15 The Forum. 2.20 News. 2.25 The Forum. 2.30 News. 2.35 The Forum. 2.40 News. 2.45 The Forum. 2.50 News. 2.55 The Forum. 3.00 News. 3.05 The Forum. 3.10 News. 3.15 The Forum. 3.20 News. 3.25 The Forum. 3.30 News. 3.35 The Forum. 3.40 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Mr. John White, manager of the Radio, has been the first of a series of interviews conducted only to succeed. The interview with Mr. White was well interesting and in

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